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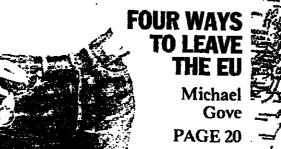
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Would you like a year's extra salary? PAGE 29



CAITLIN

Why pop stars fade away **PAGE 35**









Thatcher rebuked by angry Major

By Philip Webster POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR delivered a blunt rebuke to Baroness Thatcher last night after she twisted the knife in Conservative wounds by ostentatiously donating money to Bill Cash's anti-federalist European Foundation.

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An "incandescent" Prime Minister, battered all day by internal turmoil as two MPs were accused of holding him to ransom, virtually accused his predecessor of disloyal-

ty. He said it was up to her what she did with her money and that she must answer for her own actions". Then, in the most barbed remarks he has ever directed at her, he added: "Personally, I would have given it to the Conservative

Lady Thatcher had spoken to Mr Cash on the telephone after the Chief Whip ordered him to stop accepting money from Sir James Goldsmith or resign as the foundation's chairman. She agreed to make a donation from her private income and wrote to Mr Cash saying: "The work of the European Foundation in researching and publishing information about European issues is vital both to the Conservative Party and the country

"It is well known that the advocates of European federalism have never lacked access to funding. Not so those who seek to preserve British sovereignty. It is therefore all the more important that your Foundation should con-

discussed I am making a donation to help it do so." Mr Cash was delighted by what

he called a "substantial donation" made spontaneously. "I am ex-tremely grateful to Lady Thatcher, who is one of the greatest prime ministers of our time, for the confidence she has shown in the Foundation and myself."

Conservative Central Office attempted to play down the donation, saying it was up to Lady Thatcher what she did with her money. But her damagingly timed intervention

aides described as a state of scarcely controlled fury.

He had already been struggling to maintain party discipline after Hugh Dykes and Sir John Gorst claimed to have won a reprieve for their local hospital casualty unit by threatening to stop voting with the Government.

The Prime Minister insisted that he would never give in to black-mail, however small his Commons majority, while the two MPs were summoned by Alastair Goodlad,

the Chief Whip, for a prolonged dressing down.

The threat was denounced by scores of their colleagues throughout the day and infuriated others who have been closely involved in the campaign to beef up the accident unit at Edgware Hospital in north London.

But the wider damage for the Government was the impression the episode gave of its vulnerability to Tory MPs who might threaten revolt in their efforts to push constituency cases

Mr Goodlad told the two MPs that they had behaved with "breathtaking naivety", a charge that apparently led Sir John to walk out before being coaxed back in. The Chief Whip also suggested that they had been guilty of dishonourable

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Sec-Continued on page 2, col 5

> Hospital dispute, page 8 Michael Gove, page 20

Scientists find direct evidence for BSE link

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE first direct evidence that "mad cow" disease may have spread to human beings has been found by French and British researchers.

By injecting material from cows suffering from BSE into the brains of macaque monkeys, the French researchers produced patterns of brain damage very similar to those seen in patients suffering from a new variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD).

Dr James Ironside, of the CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh, an expert in the pathology of the disease and a co-author with the French scientists of a paper accepted for publication by Nature. said yesterday that the result "strengthens the hypothesis that the cases of CJD may be linked to BSE".

Three features of the brain pathology were similar, he said. Firstly, the prion protein believed to be the cause of the disease forms plaques in the monkeys' brains of a similar flower shape to those seen in the CJD patients.

Second, the spongy changes in the brain were seen mostly in the deep grey matter of the brain, the basal ganglia. Fi-nally, when the prion was localised in tissue sections taken from the monkeys' brains, the pattern of its distribution was similar to that seen in the CJD patients.

Although the findings sup-

"It's a small world: they've just found out that they're related"

BSE and CJD, Dr Ironside the team work. Dr Lasmezas said: "it does not tell us how and Dr Deslys said they had these individuals got the injected the brain concentrate into two adult macaque monagent." Injecting material into an animal's brain also prokeys and a newly born one in duced a very artificial situa-1991. All three had developed tion and he warned people identical brain lesions three against drawing too many years later and died.

conclusions at present. This is the first experimen tal evidence supporting a link between BSE and the new Two French members of the team, Corinne Lasmezas and form of Creuztfeldt-Jakob dis-Jean-Philippe Deslys, told a press conference in Paris yesease in man," Dr Lasmezas terday of the findings. To the said. The scientists said they irritation of Dr Philip Camphad been alerted to the posbell, the Editor of Nature, they sible link with CJD by the British announcement did so two weeks before the March of ten new cases in paper they submitted was due younger people. They had to be published. The press conference was organised by the Commisariat then compared their results with those cases.

l'Energie Atomique for Dr Deslys said the brain lesions were "very close, strikwhich six of the researchers in ingly similar" and constituted "a first experimental argument for a causal link between the bovine illness and the new form of CJD in the British

patients". Dr Campbell said that the decision of the commisariat to hold a press conference before publication of the paper had been highly regrettable. As has happened before in the BSE crisis, the public are being alerted to developments of scientific and political im-portance before the essential facts have reached the public domain," he said.

The paper would be appear-Continued on page 2, col 5

Leading article, page 21



From left, Harold Bender, and his guest, Klari Atkin, before the Lord's pavilion yesterday with Norman Williams, and his wife, Denise

Lord's and ladies together for the first time

THE steward at the entrance to the pavilion at Lord's was adamant. No ladies were to be admitted yesterday unless they were accompanied by a member of the MCC.

It did not matter that the committee had decided to let women inside for the day for the first time in more than 200 years, I could not even peep inside the Long Room without a suitable male companion.

So I set about attempting to become one of the first women to set foot inside the inner sanctum of English cricket — a privilege enjoyed before only by the Queen. I struck up a conversation outside the pavil-

> Labour reviews pledge on jobs

Labour is reconsidering a commitment to give workers

full employment rights from

Shadow ministers are also

examining existing pledges on trade union reforms.

which include reviewing the

party's position on secondary

picketing. Publicity blitz, page 9

Ecstasy dangers

their first day at work.

retired insurance inspector from Gravesend, Kent, who kindly offered to take me

we sauntered up the steps. Dress rules were still being rigorously applied. One woman wearing shorts was asked if she was a player, and when she admitted she was

inside as his guest. The stern

not, was turned away. Before venturing into the Long Room, Mr Chittenden suggested a reviving drink. What did the young barmaid think of the relaxation of rules? "I've never seen a woman in here before unless she's on my side of the bar. To be honest, I can't really see

BRITISH conservation

worker was gored to death by

a rhinoceros at an African

wildlife reserve after climbing

Daniel Lipscombe, 22, from

Guernsey, was helping the

fully-grown male to settle into

its new surroundings when it

charged. He died instantly at

the Khama Rhino Sanctuary.

near Serowe, in Botswana. A

graduate of Bristol University,

he was working as a volun-

teer, helping a breeding

programme for the endan-

gered white rhinoceros. His

parents, John and Nadia

Lipscombe, arrived at the

into its enclosure.

come," she said.
As the ladies from New Zealand gave the England women's team a thrashing on the pitch, Mr Chittenden steered me into the Long steward became all smiles as Room. Bumping into Sir Tim Rice, I asked what he thought of ladies' day. "It's terrific. A great and historic day," he

David Gower, who attracted admiring glances from members wives, was similar-ly enthusiastic. There are a lot of ladies who are genuinely interested in the game and I

don't see why they should be excluded. Virginia Bottomley, who is responsible for sport in her

White rhino kills

Briton on reserve

By Adrian Lee

THE

Secretary, was clearly delighted by the opportunity to see

inside. "I'm so excited. It's

wonderful to be here," she

Hazel Vonwiller, who was

visiting with her husband.

Our hallmarked silver cutlery embodies seven centuries of Sheffield cutlery making tradition.

rather nice after all this time to be allowed inside. We're not

going to do a war dance on the

tables and I don't understand

Cricket, pages 42 and 48

why it's taken them so long."

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port the idea of a link between EU commission accused of keeping warning secret

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS be transmitted to humans.

sure" to prevent it delivering

The report, which also men-

tioned the scientists' misgiv-

ings over lifting the ban on

British gelatine and tallow.

fuelled the outrage in France

yesterday over BSE and the

Commission's alleged failure

to prevent Britain from export-

ing suspect feed to the Conti-

nent after it was banned at

the opinion.

THE European Commission. under mounting pressure on the Continent to defend its support for Britain in the BSE crisis, last night denied that it suppressed a warning from its own scientists in early March that "mad cow" disease could

Baying the Times overseas
Austria Sch 40; Belgium B Frs 80;
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Cyprus Cf.1.20; Denmark Dir 18.00;
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Din 2.200; USA \$3.50.

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



home in 1989. Le Monde, which quoted sources on the committee, suggested the Commission had witheld new information on a link between BSE and CJD two weeks before the House of Commons announcement on the issue. Any new evidence held by the

Commission would have been The report, in Le Monde, explosive because Franz Fischler, the Farm Commissaid the Commission's Food sioner, blames Britain for Science Committee warned on March 8 that "the risk of failing to give the Commission human contamination by tisadvance warning of the Comsue infected with BSE still mons announcement on a new strain of CID, which triggered exists". It said the Commission's agriculture directorate The Commission said the had applied very strong pres-

committee, which is composed of independent scientists, had been stating the position held by the Commission for years. A spokesman for Herr Fischler said: "Our position since 1988-89 on BSE has been that we cannot exclude the risk for human health." He described as "absolutely ridiculous" the allegation that the

report had been suppressed. The Commission confirmed that the food committee had also voiced doubts on the wisdom of lifting the ban on the by-products at another meeting in early April, but he said these had been answered to the experts' satisfaction by a later meeting of the committee of veterinary experts.

Ecstasy, the drug taken by about 500,000 young people every week, may cause brain damage and chronic depression, experts say. Even a single dose can have irreversible Romanians out

Romania became the first team to be eliminated from the European football championship when they lost 1-0 to Bulgaria in Newcastle. They were beaten in their first

Budget date

The Budget will be on Tues-

day, November 26, the Gov-

ernment announced yesterday.

sanctuary yesterday after flying from the Channel Islands.

The animal involved had just arrived at the reserve and Mr Lipscombe was moving it between large enclosures known as bomas - where the animals are monitored for a few days before entering the main sanctuary. It was the first time he had carried out

the monitoring work and col-

Rachel Potasznik, the administrator of the sanctuary, said: "All rhinos are dangerous — but they are not normally aggressive." Mr Lipscombe was not carrying a weapon or stick, she said.

This was a tragic accident . . .

dard practice to enter a boma

with a rhinoceros.

we don't understand why he was inside the boma." The rhinoceros, which is more than 30 years old, will not be destroyed. Miss Potasznik, an American, said: "Daniel would be horrified if we killed the animal. It cannot be blamed."

Daniel was a gentle, caring, self-effacing man and we will all miss him," she added.

The white rhinoceros is one of five rhino species left in the world and is the commonest. mainly because of strict conservation policies in South Airica during the apartheid years. They now number 7,532 with over 7,000 in South leagues said it was not stan- Africa.

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Cartoon cat survives a hounding — but that's not all, folks

Le Monde

« Vache folle »: la Grande-Bretagne a exporté Toutente

massivement des farines animales contaminées dans le mêtro

SOMETIMES the Prime running on air until — Minister reminds me of one realising the floor has gone — Minister reminds me of one of those kiddies' cartoon cats. Pursued by a ferocious dog he dives under a stationary steamroller, which then rolls, and flattens him.

As if by miracle he pops back out of two dimensions into three then pursues a mouse into the oven and is incinerated with the Sunday

Singed hairless he recovers for the next frame, in which the mistress of the house chases him with a broom.

FOR weeks, France has been

showing disquieting symp-

sumption, a rash of scientific

reports and increasingly fever-

ish political sniping - but

yesterday the country devel-

oped a full-blown case of mad

cow disease hysteria, with

complications of anti-British

was prompted by the news that Britain had allowed mas-

sive exports to France of

animal feed suspected of caus-

ing BSE after its use was

The infection, already ram-

pant among British politi-

cians, journalists and farmers,

has spread through France

with astonishing suddenness

during the past 24 hours, accompanied by vigorous writhing and thrashing. The French media attacked

the British Government and

food producers for swamping

the country with thousands of

tons of tainted feed. The

French Government attacked

the Socialists, then in power,

for failing to ban imports of

the suspect feed for a full year

after Britain had stopped its

attacked the Government for

sale at home. The Socialists

banned in Britain in 1988.

The onset of this affliction

he plunges on to rocks below.

Still (incredibly) in one piece, he picks himself up and is swept by a wave into the mouth of a shark. The shark chews him up.

But in the next frame our cartoon cat has somehow stuck himself together, ready for the scene in which he mistakes a stick of dynamite for candy, and is completely exploded. Then, inexplicably renewed and refurred, he nips You get the picture. Zapped

Feed scare makes

French go mad at

British 'poisoners'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A group of meat exporters

won permission yesterday to challenge in the High

Court the fairness of the

Government's emergency

aid for traders hit by the

ban on British beef. The

group, representing some

40 per cent of the UK beef

export trade, says that beef

exporters who also operate

slaughterhouse and cutting

plants receive aid while the

remaining exporters get

nothing even though they

trying to relax the European

beef ban, and anyone left over

attacked the European Com-

mission for reportedly

pressurising scientists into si-

lence when they warned of the dangers of infected beef in

Philippe Vasseur, the usual-

bovine and contented Agri-

culture Minister, showed

signs of wanting to attack

everybody and accused his

political rivals of conspiring

with Britain to allow imports

of the suspect feed to double.

He was heard to bellow: "If

you climb up a tree, you

should make sure your under-

early March.

are in severe difficulties.

by Bill Cash and his Referendum Bill on Tuesday, John Major, alias Korky the Cat. seemed to have turned the tables on his tormentor by yesterday, and stood confidently at the dispatch box to tell Labour smartypants De-nis MacShane (Rotherham) that Mr Cash's group's funding by Sir James Goldsmith was unacceptable and he had

banned it. But by now Tony Blair (the cartoon dog) had arrived with a new torment.

Was it true that the Govern-

wear is clean." The French

press came up with a range of

furious headlines. "The Crime of the English". Le Soir de-

clared across its entire front

page, insisting: "The English

stuffed us with their feed." The

columnist Bernard Morrot

thundered: "It is clear that

government of Margaret

Thatcher unloaded, as a drug-

dealer unloads drugs he

knows to be fatal, its reserves

of contaminated feed on the

rest of the world, having

Le Monde condemned the

feed sales as an "industrial

crime" while Le Figaro said

France had been made into "a

in the left-leaning daily Liber-ation accused John Major of

cynically attempting to exploit the beef crisis for electoral

purposes, while Le Monde columnist Pierre Georges

painted Britain, once again, as

shopkeepers with a mentality

Many French consumers

have long suspected that the

beef crisis is a deliberate ruse

by perfidious Albion to poison

French cattle — there were

even reports that dead British

of "Sell, sell at any price".

nation of unscrupulous

Columnist Jacques Amalric

dustbin for Britain's food".

banned it at home."

MATTHEW PARRIS **POLITICAL SKETCH**

threats from two backbenchers into agreeing a new accident and emergency unit at Edgware? Pluto's supporters jeered. Pluto had dug a hole and Korky was in it.

Well, what are we to make of this," sneered the Dog (it is one of his favourite sneers). snapping at the PM's tail. Korky Major withdrew his damaged tail, recoiled from

cows had been spotted floating

in the Channel - but those

fears were damped down by

repeated government claims

that only a small amount of British feed was ever imported

to France and only a handful

Nature magazine, however,

France has reached the level of

panic Britain achieved several

months ago, proving that the

incubation period for mad-

cow hysteria varies from re-

gion to region and leaving the

rival political parties in France

desperately trying to pin

With the latest revelations in

of cattle infected.

his pursuer and, climbing from the hole, told him his supposition was plain wrong. He had not been forced into

any such concession. Korky's supporters cheered. A Korky Komeback, no less! Pluto Blair yapped on but was thrown off balance, his soundbites biting only air rather than Korky's tail (mir-

was about to be tweaked. Jerry Ashdown, a sort of overgrown cartoon mouse. returned to the subject of Mr Cash's Bill, snapping shut on to Korky's tail a trap whose upper jaw was his troubles over Europe and lower jaw his troubles over Edgware.

Ouch. It hurt, but it was not fatal, and Korky had by now

clambered most of the way out of the hole Pluto had dug. Sir John Gorst (C. Hendon N) pushed him back in. This was not intentional. As one of the backbenchers alleged to Edgware. Gorst meant to offer Korky a helping hand. He had not demanded an accident and emergency unit. he said, and had not got one. He had been offered only "a casualty unit ...

Korky's side cheered. Their hero was climbing from the ... with doctors instead of

nurses, on 24-hour duty". Thwack! Korky went spinning back into the hole. Labour cackled. Pluto snarled, Gorst gulped, and Korky fans' jaws dropped. End of

previous frame, of course). It have bullied ministers over cartoon episode. Next episode: June 18. We leave Korky bruised, tail shredded, fur singed, at the bottom of a

But be sure that next Tuesday at 3.15pm he will be there, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed. miraculously restored for the next disaster.

☐ STOP PRESS: Mistress Thatcher is on the warpath, with a broom. She is to fund Cash's antics. Poor-Korky. Does Edgware casualty unit provide treatment for

'Wise man' predicts no loss from quitting EU

By ALICE THOMSON

ONE of the Treasury's six wise men said yesterday that Britain would suffer no economic disadvantage if it withdrew from the European

Patrick Minford, Professor of Economics at the University of Liverpool, has done a cost analysis of the benefits of EU membership and says that Britain barely breaks even. Professor Minford, who acts as economic adviser to the Chancellor, rejected Kenneth Clarke's insistence that it would be political and economic suicide for Britain to split with her European partners.

He said that if the Government came under relentless pressure to sign up to a single currency or stringent social regulations, Britain would be better off alone and could consider withdrawal complete confidence".

According to his analysis. Britain's contribution to the common agricultural policy is: £10 billion a year, but this is broadly offset by the £9 billion net trade gain from being in the single European market.

"In the short term it makes sense to remain an EU club member, since we have invested so much in it," he said. "But if Britain's EU partners insist on signing up to the social chapter or joining the monetary union, the costs of the relationship would erase Britain's hard-won economic ad-

Professor Minford suggest-ed that Britain should in mediately start negotiating a deal that would provide exclusion from political union, the social chapter and a single currency... "In the longer-term we must work for a free-market; Europe. If we fail we will thenbe forced to contemplate a future outside Europe, as a. free-market trading nation. But this option holds no

☐ A poll released yesterday shows that the majority of Swedes would oppose EU membership if a vote was taken now. The central statistics bureau found that 60 per cent of the 3,673 people questioned would vote against membership and only 26 in favour. In a referendum in November 1994, 52.5 per cent of the country voted in favour

may end support over beef FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

Labour

THE Labour Party put the Government on notice vesterday that it could expect no mercy if its European beef war ended in a deal lacking deadlines for lifting the ban on British exports.

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, signalled the imminent end of Labour's truce over the BSE campaign in a policy speech in Brussels which also pledged that a future Labour government would be fully committed to Europe and prepared to yield some sovereignty to the EU. Britain needs a government which can give it a fresh start in Europe. Europe needs such a government because a Europe without Britain is not conceivable." he said.

Mr Cook was speaking in the European Parliament as officials confirmed that the draft framework plan being worked out ahead of the EU summit next week carries no dates for ending the worldwide ban imposed by the EU.

Commenting after his speech, Mr Cook said: "If the One of the few other stories to make the front pages con-Government does not obtain cerned devil-worshippers aca credible timescale, then its cused of desecrating graves, but the casual reader would strategy of non-cooperation cannot possibly be justified have been forgiven for thinkin view of the damage which it has done to Britain's standing the "Children of Satan" was merely another reference

Major rebukes Thatcher

farmers did not have enough

British officials in Paris

pointed out that the sale of

meat and bone meal for con-

sumption by non-ruminants

was legal in Britain until this

year, and that Britain could

not have stopped its export.

feed for their animals."

Headlines in France-Soir and Le Monde attack Britain and, right, the brain of

one of 16 French cows which showed traces of BSE, feared linked to human CJD

blame on each other. M

Vasseur, condemned the So-

cialist administration of Mi-

chel Rocard for waiting a full

year before banning imports

of suspect feed in August 1989.

The Opposition accused the

government of endangering

public health by supporting a

relaxation of the import ban

ish did not tell us the truth,"

Henri Nallet, Agriculture

Minister at the time, told

a radio interviewer. "In

1989 and 1990, we had had two

In 1988 and 1989, the Brit-

on British beef.

tum on Monday demanding a promise that a 24-hour accident department staffed by doctors. He told reporters that by the time he received the "silly" letter, he had already decided that the casualty unit would be strengthened when the main accident and emer-

gency unit closed. The letter therefore left him in a dilemma. He could not be seen to be giving in to black-mail, but it would be wrong to change a decision that he had already made. He said that he asked the two MPs on Tuesday to withdraw their letter and to keep their exchanges secret. That undertaking had been broken.

Although the two MPs are understood to have telephoned Mr Dorrell yesterday to apologise, neither he nor any other

BSE link

minister was in a mood to retary, said that he was "livid" forgive. Mr Goodlad accused about the activities of the two them of breaking their word approaches of that sort from MPs, who sent him an ultima- and said they had acted any Member. We don't reagainst the interests of their constituents because Mr Dorrell could not be seen to be acting under duress.

Neither Mr Dykes nor Sir John followed Mr Goodlad's advice that they should go to last night's 1922 Committee meeting to explain themselves. and in their absence they attacked by a number of their colleahgues, including Sir Michael Neubert, Harry Greenway and John Marshall. According to those present the atmosphere was electric and stormy; the MPs' action was attacked as dis-

serving, disloyal and dirty. In the Commons, under persistent pressure from Tony Blair, Mr Major denied that he had caved in to threats to appease the pair. He said:

graceful, outrageous, self-

"There is no possibility of the spond to such activities and we will not." Mr Blair said that people

felt contempt for a government whose policy seemed now "solely to be determined by the imprint of the last person that sat on the Prime Minister".

But in what was interpreted as a general warning to his MPs. Mr Major said: "The tactic by anyone of threatening to hold support generally in response to a specific demand is not going to work, it is not acceptable, it has not worked. it is not acceptable and it will not work either now or at any stage in the future. No Government minister would respond to such an approach."

> Hospital dispute, page 8 Michael Gove. page 20

vantages and we would lose control over domestic interest

of joining the EU.

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ing in the Scientific Correspondence section, he said,

usually reserved for more speculative ideas. That reflected the journal's judgement that the full significance of the observations has yet to be established, although the observations themselves "are of great interest".

French fury with Britain over BSE continued unabated yesterday after the disclosure in this week's Nature that animal feed potentially con-taminated with the causative agent for BSE was sold in banned in Britain for ruminants' use.

"In 1988 and 1989, the British did not tell us the truth." Henri Nallet, France's Agriculture Minister at the time. said, calling it "absolutely scandalous". The daily news-paper Le Figaro headlined its report: "France, dustbin for

British groceries* The European Commission said that it had been up to the importing countries, not the Commission, to control the use of the British feed. "If member states did not control the use to which meat and bonemeal feed was put, then that was their responsibility." Gerrard Kiely, for the Commission, said. "The circumstantial evidence is that member states did control the use of this meat and honemeal because there have not been many cases of BSE in. for example, France."

Leading article, page 21

Canadä



Clean air, friendly people, exceptional quality of life. A great place to live, work, invest, prosper and raise a family. That's the Manitoba advantage.

Emerging and traditional economic sectors are creating employment opportunities in Manitoba, a province of CANADA, for individuals with up-to-date skills and experience.

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Seminars will be held in London and Glasgow. These sessions have been arranged in conjunction with the Canadian High Commission in London.

You must have a minimum one year experience in your intended occupation, a high level of education, be fluent in English or French and adaptable to the Canadian labour market. A Canadian immigration officer will be in attendance.

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Fax number: (204) 948-2256 Internet email: krobins@citizenship.gov.mb.ca Registration deadline: June 26, 1996

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Major's classless honours still find privileged homes

By Alice Thomson and Andrew Pierce

WHITEHALL bureaucrats were appatled when John Major announced grandiose more classless two years agn. But the Sir Humphreys should not have worried. As the Queen's Birthday Honours are announced tonight, a

survey by The Times shows

that the Prime Minister's re-

forms have been a failure. The civil servants were told that they would no longer automutically get a gong for service to the Empire and instead awards would be going to hardworking follypop ladies, deserving postmen and volunteer carers. But in the past two weeks envelopes bearing the official crest have been arriving at homes of politicians and administrators, the armed forces and diplomatic service. Very few

have gone to council estates. Civil servants have consistently accounted for 17 to 20 per cent of honours before and after the overhaul of the system. Since the Tories came to power in 1974, the number of civil servants honoured every six months has been fallen by just five since 1993. Only at the very top of the Whitehall tree is there a difference. Nine of the Permanent Secretaries, the highestrunking civil servants, are knights compared with 15 when Margaret Thatcher was Prime Minister.

But they get there eventual-

ly. Sir Patrick Brown, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Transport, was knighted in 1995. Sir Tim Lankester, Permanent Secretary at Education, knelt before the Queen in 1994. In the last honours list. Sir David Gillmore, former head of the Diplomatic Service, was given a life pecrage.

The Government also looks after the business establishment. More than half the chairmen of the UK's top companies are knights or peers. Prior to the change in the system, up to 30 knighthoods were announced in each list, with eight going to captains of industry on average. The numbers in today's list will be broadly the same. One notable change has been in the increase in celebrities,

win awards. On current trends we will soon have Dame Anneka Rice and Sir

But it is only on the bottom rung that any real change is being felt. Since the British Empire Medat was abolished 1993, nominations for Members of the British Empire have been encouraged from the public. The number soared from a trickle to 9,000

The result has been the appointment of an extra 100 MBEs, taking the total to an average 600 to 650 of the total 1,000 awards which are made in each list. Most of the 100 extra awards go to people working in the voluntary sec-tor. There has been one follypop lady, Violet Chater from Luton: Annie Musk. 90, who still cares for elderly patients at the Ramsgate Hospital. Kent: and a postman well-known for his charitable feats. But whoever receives a gong today will do well to remember Sir Winston Churchill's warning: "A medal glitters but

it also casts a shadow. ☐ Queen's Birthday Honours



Sheelagh Costaine arriving at Reading Crown Court for sentence yesterday

Woman in hitman plot freed by judge

kill her business partner atter a property deal went sour walked free from court yesterday.

Sheelagh Costaine, 39, collapsed and lay sobbing for ten minutes after the judge gave her a suspended two-year sentence. Later she went for a champagne lunch with her family.

Reading Crown Court had

been told that Adrian Brookes. the man she approached to kill her partner for £10,000. informed the police, who set up a videotaped undercover operation to trap her. The judge had earlier

accepted that she had sought a hitman to murder John Tunstill because her irrational desire to protect her mother at all costs had made her lose touch with reality.

Miss Costaine had denied two charges of soliciting Mr Brookes and an undercover police officer to commit murder. The court was told she had said she wanted Mr Tunstill "shot, killed, eliminated". She maintained she was not being serious, but the jury found her guilty of soliciting to murder at her trial last month.

Mr Justice Sedley said yes terday: "Police carefully and properly set up a bogus hitman. The video tape does not show a distraught or irrational woman. It shows a perfectly rational woman trying to have a man killed."

The judge, who told her he was sure she would present no danger to the public, said he had been seeking the right balance between justice and mercy. He said that Miss Costaine feared her mother was going to lose her home if Mr Tunstill pursued a financial claim. Miss Costaine, of Chesham. Buckinghamshire. owed Mr Tunstill £50,000 after an Italian property deal

Phillip Matthews, for the defence, said: "She clearly lost track with reality throughout the period of three to four weeks. She had become ex-



How Bing Crosby took the road to **Dallowgill**

By Joe Joseph

THE Bulgarian soccer squad may have sniffed at the tranquitty of Yorkshire's beauty spots, but Bing Crosby just loved the Dales to bits. Bing, famous for warbling

while wiggling his head sidevisited the area once. But it seems he was smitten. It was a two-hour stay in the village of Kirkby Malzeard, near Ripon, on the opening day of the grouse season in 1976 that

Crosby, who shot on the nearby moors, got on so swimmingly with the locals that he even donned cricket pads and took to the wicket. Then he popped in for a pint and signed autographs in the Drovers Inn at Ďaliowgili.

When Crosby died two years later, in 1978, Joan Kirk, a community worker, wrote to his widow, Kathryn. sending condolences from the people of Kirkby Malzeard. In return, Mrs that Bing had penned about his trip. Now the verses, both handwritten and signed, are

featured in a book celebrat-ing the charm of Nidderdale. The book is called Why Florida? Its title comes from contributor's remark: "While there is Yorkshire. there's no need to go to Florida for magnificent

Tory party's wealthy benefactors feature prominently in awards

has failed to have any noticeable impact on the number of awards to wealthy benefac-tors of the Tory party.

Since he came to power in November 1990, the Prime Minister has awarded five peerages and 45 knighthoods to industrialists. More than two thirds of those honours — 30 knighthoods and three peerages — went to directors of companies which have given millions of pounds to

in June 1994 Sir Allen

chief executive of Grand Metropolitan, was elevated to the Upper House as Baron Sheppard of Didgemere.

Sir David Nickson, a director of Hambros and Scottish & Newcastle, which have donated more than El million since 1979. became Baron Nickson of Renagour in Jan-

The allocation of honours under Mr Major is broadly in line with the Thatcher years, when a total of 144 industrialists were given

An estimated 64 per cent had given funds to the Tory party. A further 27 industrialists were given peerages, of which 17 were connected to companies which had made donations to the Tories.

The Labour Research Department has concluded that almost half of all major honours awarded by Mr Major go to people who maintain and finance the Conservative Party. Downing Street maintains there is no

Mansell accused of insider deal plan

By A STAFF REPORTER

NIGEL MANSELL, the former world motor racing champion, was accused in the High Court yesterday of being involved in an attempted \$\$00,000 insider share deal with a convicted fraudster.

A preliminary hearing was told that Mansell was per-suaded to hand the money to Anthony Collard, a golfing friend, who told him that he had eight million shares in a New York computer company that was about to be floated and he could make a "substantial profit*

Mark Howard said: "There is clear evidence of dubious conduct or possible criminality and fraud on the part of Mansell and Collard."

Mr Howard was representing a firm of solicitors and a property company sued by Mansell after Mr Collard used the money to put a deposit on a £650,000 farm in south Devon and to pay off debts. When Mr Collard failed to keep up the payments and was ordered out of the farmhouse, he vanished and later committed suicide.

Paul Norris, representing his wife Rosanne, said that it was a "very sad set of circum-stances" because of the allegations about the "propriety of the transaction" in which his



Mansell: handed over £800.000 to golf friend

clients were involved. He sought to freeze proceeds of any sale of the farm as the money could be "dissipated" and Mr Mansell, who was not in court yesterday, was entitled to recompense over the

"loan" he gave to Mr Collard. Mr Justice Lindsay refused to make an injunction against the owners of the farm. Walhrook Properties, which is owned by the Jersey-based Walbrook Trust, part of the accountants Touche Ross.

"I have no reason to believe that it is anything other than a reputable company," he said. adding that it "would need to he investigated" at the full hearing when the Mansells try to retrieve their funds. There was comment about

the honu fides of the Mansells themselves in joining with Mr Collard. No doubt at the trial all sorts of matters will come out." He added: "It would seem that the Mansells are victims of a fraud."

The hearing was adjourned until a date is fixed for a full

Theatrical agent owes £645,000 to stars she polished

By Russell Jenkins

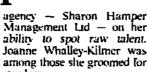
A THEATRICAL agent wept yesterday as she admitted to ormer clients at a creditors's that she owed

Sharon Hamper, whose lavsh lifestyle was legendary in showbusiness circles, owes more than £200,000 to Caroline Ouentin, star of the BBC comedy Men Behaving Bodly. Craig McLachlan, a former Neighbours star, is owed

Miss Hamper, 43, has 140 actors on her books and owes money to about 100. She came face to face with some of them at a closed meeting in a central London hotel that lasted for

She blamed the collapse of the agency on the failure to install adequate accounting checks after the resignation of her original partner. Sheila Neafsey, a trained accountant. about eight years ago.

Finbarr O'Connell, of the chartered accountants Grant Thornton, said that Miss Hamper had now drawn up a sworn statement of affairs to be filed at Companies House. It shows that her company has 585,000 in the client account and outstanding debts of \$645,000. The there are monies earmarked for them in the client account, they will get it." Mr Thernton said. Miss Hamper buik her



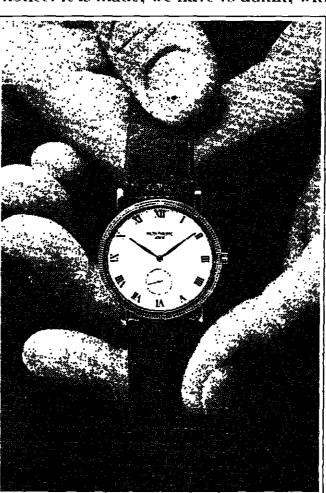
stardom Helen Lederer, the comic actress, said: It is devastating that money I have earned has disappeared. I am the main earner, and I have a child, and l don't have a rich daddy to bail me out."

Show Taylor, the presenter of Police Five and a creditor. said: "It's impossible to say if I will get my money back. I went to the agency after finish-ing Police Five after 30 years in 1992 I wanted to see if I could get back into acting it's not been successful so far."



Hamper: wept as she

For more than a century and a half, Patek Philippe has been known as the finest watch in the world. The reason is very simple. It is made differently. It is made using skills and techniques that others have lost or forgotten. It is made with attention to detail very few people would notice. It is made, we have to admit, with a total disregard for time. If



movement requires four years of continuous work to bring to absolute perfection, we will take four years. The result will be a watch that is unlike any other. A watch that conveys quality from first glance and first touch. A watch with a distinction: generation after generation it has been worn, loved and collected by those who are very difficult to please; those who will only accept the best. For the day that you take delivery of your Parek Philippe. you will have acquired the best. Your watch will be a masterpiece, quietly reflecting your own values. A watch that was made to be treasured.

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Women and children second as men seize the day for television soccer

By ALEXANDRA FREAM

WOMEN and children are taking second place in front of the TV set as men come home early from work to watch Euro 96 matches, ratings figures revealed yesterday. Daytime audiences have rocketed since the championship started last weekendm and the main increase is made up of 2.5 million male viewers.

Afternoon programmes have long been the preserve of a mainly female audience and their young. But many of them - and some employers - appear to have let football seize the day, especially at 4.30pm when afternoon matches kick off. Normally you might expect three million men to be watching across all channels at that time of day, but when a Euro 96 match is on the figure mysteriously increases to nearly 5.5 million." an ITV spokeswoman said. The number of female viewers at that time has remained stable at around 4.5 million.

Both the BBC and ITV say they are pleasantly surprised at the strength of viewing figures for the afternoon games. Monday's nil-nil draw between Scotland and Holland scooped an average audience of 7.8 million for ITV, peaking at 10.2 million towards the end of the match. Italy's 2-1 victory over Russia, shown live at 430pm by BBCI on Tuesday, had an average audience of 6.1 million and a

peak of around eight million. This is a good result - children's programmes screened at that time might attract 1.5 million each for BBC1 and ITV." the ITV spokeswoman said. Euro % organisers said many people had booked holidays from work to coincide Gummery, information manager at the Institute of Personnel and Development said it was clear that many employees were being allowed home early.

"It would be difficult for managements

to try to control attendance at work during these two weeks." Mr Gummery said. "Many seem to have accepted that they would be better off taking a flexible approach." The rise in job-sharing and flexitime in the past few years had made it easier for companies to organise cover for employees wanting to alter their normal hours. Mr Gummery explained. There are all sorts of ways that industry can cope now. In a job-share between a man and a women, for example, one of the two might arrange not to come in when there is a match on television. You



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SECOND-HAND TOBACCO SMOKE IN PERSPECTIVE

What risks do you take?

Almost every day, it seems that one thing or another has been discovered to be some kind of health risk.

In one scientific study, even drinking ordinary chlorinated water was linked to cancer.

But as common sense suggests (and scientists confirm) not everything described statistically as a risk is a meaningful risk.

For example, lots of people have been persuaded that second-hand tobacco smoke is harmful.

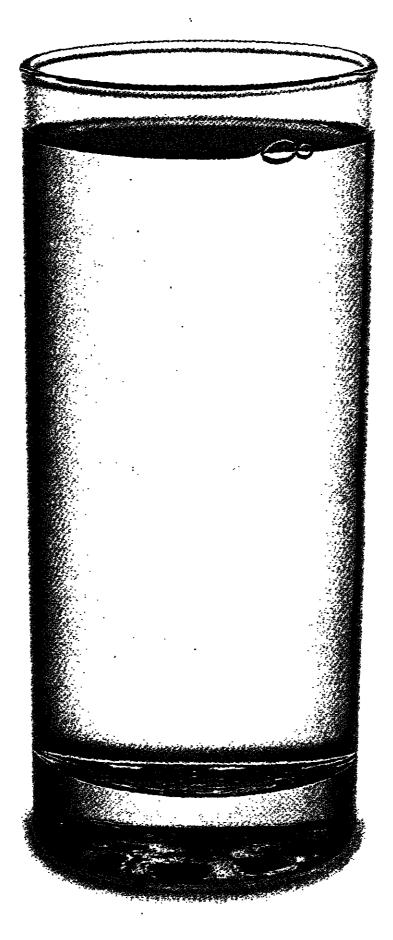
Not surprising, perhaps.

After all, we recognise that smoking itself is a risk factor for certain human diseases and that some people find second-hand tobacco smoke unappealing and unpleasant.

But what about second-hand tobacco smoke? Is it really a meaningful health risk to people who've chosen not to smoke?

Not, we think, if you look at the evidence.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency recently conducted a major review of studies on the risks of second-hand tobacco smoke to non-smokers. These studies typically involve non-smokers living with smokers over a long period, such as 20 years.



And this review put the risk of lung cancer from second-hand tobacco smoke at a level well below the risk reported by other studies for many everyday items and activities.

And below, in fact, the risk to health that one other study reported for drinking chlorinated water.

As the table below shows, many everyday activities have been statistically associated at one time or another with apparent risks to health.

But reputable scientists say that weak associations aren't necessarily meaningful.

So there's no big campaign to persuade you to stop drinking chlorinated water.

Nor is there any sound justification for a campaign against second-hand tobacco smoke.

If you'd like to decide for yourself, please write to us at Philip Morris Europe S.A., c/o P.O. Box 107, 1000 AC Amsterdam, The Netherlands or fax us on 00 31 20 671 98 89 or access us on: http://pminfo.yrams.nl

We'll send you the evidence about secondhand smoke.

We believe you'll find the case convincing.

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Everyday Activities	Reported Relative Risk*	Reported Health Effect	Scientific Study Reference
Diet highest in saturated fat	6.14	Lung cancer	Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Vol. 85, p.1906 (1993)
Non-vegetarian v vegetarian diet	3.08	Heart disease	American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, Vol. 31, p. S191 (1978)
Frequently cooking with rapeseed oil	2.80	Lung cancer	International Journal of Cancer, Vol. 40, p. 604 (1987)
Drinking 1-2 glasses of whole milk per day	1.62	Lung cancer	International Journal of Cancer, Vol. 43, p. 608 (1989)
Eating one biscuit a day	1.49	Heart disease	Lancet, Vol. 341, p. 581 (1993)
Drinking chlorinated water	1.38	Rectal cancer	American Journal of Public Health, Vol. 82, p. 955 (1992)
Eating pepper frequently	1.30	Mortality	American Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 119, p. 775 (1984)
Exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke	1.19	Lung cancer	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1992)
High vegetable diet	0.37	Lung cancer	International Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 25, Suppl. 1, p. 32 (1990)
High fruit diet	0.31	Lung cancer	American Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 133, p. 683 (1991)

According to the US National Cancer Institute... "In epidemiologic research, relative risks of less than 2 are considered small and are usually difficult to interpret. Such increases may be due to change statistical bias, or effects of confounting factors that are complimes not evident."

Philip Morris Europe S.A.

Second-hand tobacco smoke. Let's keep a sense of perspective.

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Coroner says victim of cowboy builders was unlawfully killed

By Michael Horsnell

touring the Headley Park area of Brisiol.

A CORONER recorded a ver-dict of unlawful killing yesterday on an elderly man who The inquest was told that hanged himself after paying three cowboy builders £4,000 to rebuild his garden wall. they played on his fears that his small front garden wall could collapse and hurt child-Thomas Dando, 70, a forren playing next door. They mer office worker, was found then took three days to assemhanging from the banisters in ble a two-layer breezeblock his home on May 13 shortly wall. They kept changing their after handing over his sav-

estimate but eventually ings. "Had it not been for the conned him into handing over difficulties surrounding this two cheques for £2,000. work, the death, in my judg-His former wife, Audrey, 64, said that she had seen Mr Dando three days before his ment, would not have occ-urred, Paul Forrest, the Avon Coroner, said. body was discovered. "He was The verdict has led police to very agitated. I think he knew launch a hunt for the three builders. They said yesterday that a verdict of unlawful he had been conned and he felt

responsible for it.
They gave him an estimate killing in a suicide case was but when they finished they very unusual. In cases where said it would be much more than they had originally thought and, being a gentle-man and a man of honour, he unlawful homicide is suspected and a criminal investiga-tion is likely, the coroner will usually adjourn the inquest.
The Crown Prosecution Serpaid up. I cannot believe people can be so unscrupuvice has been informed of the lous, but I am glad the coroner circumstances of the case, in

has taken a stand,"

Janet Morgan, 40, Mr Dando's next-door neighbour.

said: "I could tell they were not doing a professional job. He was going in and out to see what they were doing and I could see that he was agitated."

Marilyn Van-Meir, 55, another neighbour, who had known Mr Dando for 35 years, said she was ap-proached by the builders who wanted to work on her drive. They were very persistent and wouldn't take no for an answer. Tom was a very private person and a very nice man. You just wonder why he couldn't have spoken to somebody about it."

A spokesman for the Consumers' Association said: "Many people, especially the elderly, can be pressured into signing contracts for work they don't need done. I would always suggest that people check the credentials of the company before agreeing to them starting work. There will always be unscrupulous people who will take advantage of the helpless."



BY ADRIAN LEE

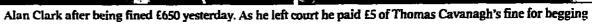
ALAN CLARK, the former Conservative minister, was fined £650 yesterday for driving through a police security cordon in London.

Bow Street magistrates were told that, during a security alert in Piccadilly. Mr Clark drove his Land Rover within a few feet of a suspect package, which bomb squad officers were about to destroy. The inci-dent happened in February, shortly after the IRA ended its ceasefire with a bomb in Docklands, and an explosion on a bus in the Aldwych.

Mr Clark. 68. who admitted obstructing the police, had argued with officers when they tried to stop him and had driven on. Andrew Harman, for the prosecution, said. The officers had to reset their equipment when Mr Clark breached the sterile area. The package was later found to be harmless.

Mr Clark, who was not represented, said: "I accept





that what I did was ill-judged and impetuous." He had written an apology to the Metropolitan Commissioner

the same evening.

He had been trying to reach his office at the Albany. "There was no officer there, and I am not criticising him. so I foolishly took a chance to

hop the short distance." Nich-

olas Evans, a stipendiary magistrate, told him: "You have shown remorse in recognition of what you have done. I have given you full credit for your guilty plea. But the facts of this case make it a very serious case and I am fining you £650 with £50 costs." Mr Clark, former MP for Plymouth

Sutton and a historian, of-fered to pay within 14 days. As he left the court he gave

a £5 note to a homeless man to save him from a day in jail for begging. Mr Clark, a millionaire

who lives in a castle in Kent. had been chatting to Thomas Cavanagh, 32, who had been arrested for begging in the Strand, as they waited for their cases to be called. Mr Cavanagh said afterwards: "He asked me what I would get and I said probably a day in jail or a fine. Then he gave me £5 to pay the fine. It was very nice of him. I was fined £20 and now I have to get back to the Strand to raise the other £15."

Girl due at Dunblane inquiry is is missing

which the builders chose Mr

Dando as their victim after

By STEPHEN FARRELL

A SCHOOLGIRL who was to have given evidence to the Dunblane inquiry has disappeared, leaving a despairing poem and a note saying she could not face reliving her

memories of the killer. Vicky Haggar, 15, whose mother Doreen waged a campaign against Thomas Hamilton, wrote of how she felt trapped in a private hell. Her mother said she feared Vicky

was contemplating suicide. In 1989 Mrs Haggar threw buckets of oil and manure over Hamilton in Linlithgow after visiting her son on a summer camp he ran for boys on Loch Lomond. She claimed Hamilton later pointed a gun At her outside her home.

Mrs Haggar, of Aberdeen, on June 5, but her daughter, who was also invited, did not attend. Police told Lord Cullen there were discrepancies between the family's accounts of the alleged gun incident and of incidents on Loch

omono. Mrs Haggar said the day before she was due to appear Vicky wrote a note to Lord Cullen saying that eight and a half years ago many children had spoken out about Hamilton. It would seem, as children, our word was not enough. Hamilton had given her nightmares, she said.

Mrs Haggar said she had hardly seen Vicky since returning from the hearing. Grampian Police said they were treating the case as a

Catholic to chair **Forum**

A ROMAN Catholic Unionist man of the body by Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Ulster Secretary.

Forum members will decide whether they want him to stay in the chair during the first meeting. He will have the nomination of his party but needs support from 75 per cent of members present. The Democratic Unionists, currently no friends of the Ulster Unionists, will have 26 per cent, enough to veto him.

Mr Gorman, former chief executive of the Housing Executive, Ulster's public housing body, and regional director of the Institute of Directors, said he would like the job full-time if he was acceptable to members. He said he believed his background as an Ulster Unionist and a Catholic would bring a certain perspective to the role.

"I have often wondered why it was felt generally that people of one religion must vote one way and people of another religion must vote another," he said.

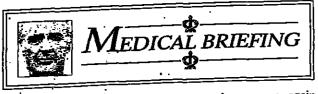
The 110-member body, elected on May 30, will have its first meeting in a former Co-Op store on the edge of the city centre. It is expected to meet once a week when the multiparty talks on the future of the Province are not in session.

Unionist

By A STAFF REPORTER

is to chair the newly elected Northern Ireland Forum when it sits for the first time in Belfast today. John Gorman has made his first foray into elected politics at the age of 73 as an Ulster Unionist and has been named as interim chair-

missing person inquiry. Chronic indigestion can be checked out



SUPERMARKET shelves are stacked with food and drink likely to make the flatulent and dyspeptic suffer, rich sauces, curries, chilli peppers, even cheese and white wine.

Safeway — whose wares are no more likely than rivals to cause indigestion - is now offering a pilot scheme in five stores in the London area. for a blood test which it is hoped will distinguish between those whose indigestion is related entirely to anxiety, gluttony. the wrong genetic inheritance or some more serious condition; and those where the cause is a chronic low-grade infection of the stomach and upper intestine with the bacterium Helicobacter pylori. Initial studies show that most of those with chronic dyspersia

have the infection. A spokesman for the pathology company that is running the service, said: "Although there has been a mixed reaction from the local GPs, most who have been in contact with us have been in favour. Some have even referred patients to Safeway for testing for H. pylori, and others have been in touch later to tell us how patients have not only lost their indigestion but have felt better and are once again enjoying food."

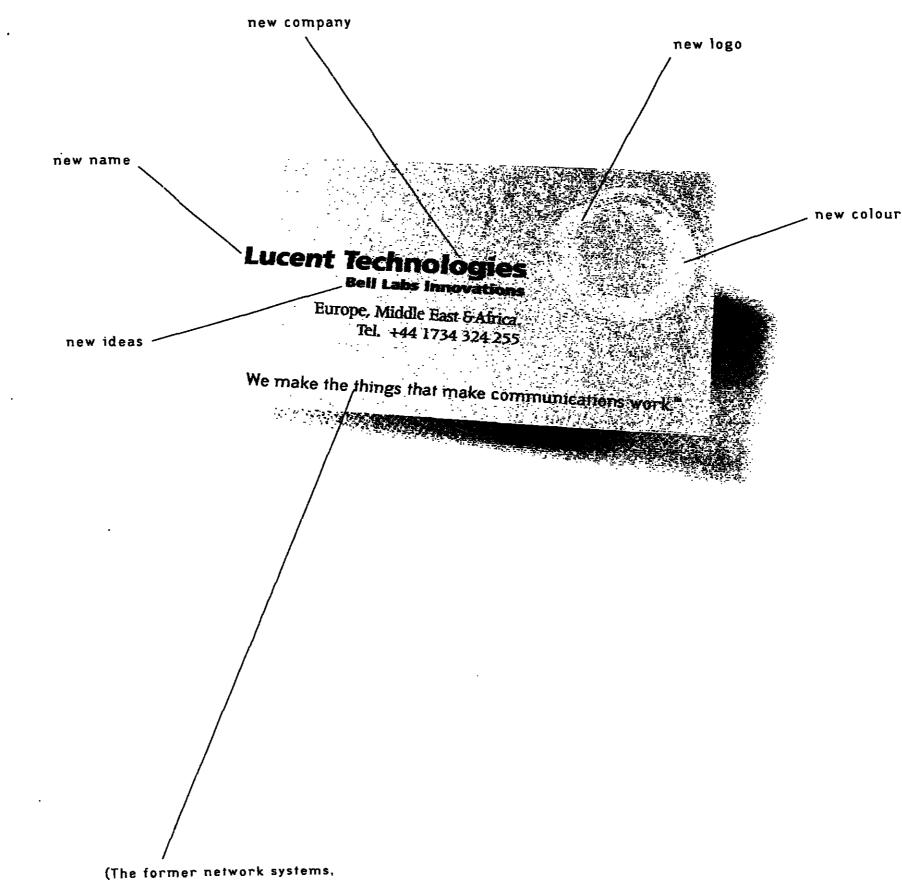
The supermarket will test only patients who have longstanding indigestion. A care-ful history is taken by the store's nurse. Any patients who are H. pylori positive are told to see their GP.

For a price, the same stores will also test blood for cholesterol, anaemia and, possibly rather more controversially, allergies, using immunological tests on the blood. The charge is about £10 for the anaemia test and about £13 for the others.

Those doctors who object to the service have done so partly because they feel that once a patient has been diagnosed as having H. pylori, there is no option other than to prescribe expensive treatment, which combines an acid suppressant

with antibiotics. These doctors maintain that the long-term value of treatment is still being assessed; some estimates have suggested that up to 30 per cent of people may harhour H. pylori in their gastro-intestinal tract.

> DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD



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Inspectors say poor marking is harming vocational courses

By David Charter, education correspondent

LAX marking and ineffective checks on standards are undermining the new job-related qualifications taken by sixthformers. Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools said yesterday. General National Vocation-

al Qualifications have been heralded by ministers as an alternative to A levels and are taken by one in four sixthformers. However, Mr Woodhead said that standards of marking of basic literacy, numeracy and computer skills needed urgent attention, otherwise the courses would lose the confidence of students and

He was speaking after Ofsted, the school inspection agency, published its third report on GNVQs since they were introduced in 1992 in an attempt to raise Britain's skill levels to those of its competitors.

Woodhead said Advanced GNVQs, being taken by 200,000 students in subjects such as business, manuThe Government said yesterday that it had introduced the educational measures necessary to improve Britain's international performance. A "skills audit", part of the White Paper on competitiveness published yesterday, said Germany had a "striking" lead at A level.

"scores poorly" on Business news, pages 26, 29

The British workforce

facturing and leisure and tourism, did not yet merit the title "applied A levels", the name proposed for them by Sir Ron Dearing, chairman of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, in his recent review of qualifications.

School inspectors said teachers' judgments of students' work was unreliable in a quarter of schools. The inconsistencies were often not being picked up in checks by

the three awarding bodies: the Business and Technology Education Council; City and Guilds; and the RSA Examinations Board.

Inspectors visited 60 schools and colleges and were particularly critical of the continuous assessment of the "core skills" of communication, use of numbersd and information technology. Ofsted said that in most schools, information technology was being graded by teachers who had little knowledge of the subject. Some were reluctant to fail students on aspects of their core skills if it jeopardised their success in the overall

The Department for Education and Employment said it was already acting to raise the standards of GNVQs. A El0 million grant, announced in April, would fund the preparation of rigorous tests for core skills as well as the rewriting of marking criteria.

Education, page 37





Rosie murder 'could not have been avoided'

AND RICHARD FORD

PSYCHIATRIC care given to a man who lured a three-year-old girl to his flat and murdered her was inadequate, a report on his treatment said yesterday. But it added that it was "impossible to conclude this tragedy could have been avoided".

The mother of Rosie Palmer, whose body was found in a bin bag in Shaun Armstrong's flat on the Headland estate in Hartlepool, said the report was a whitewash. Sane, the mental health charity, condemned "an appalling catalogue of blunders".

The report, produced by an independent inquiry set up by Tees Health Authority, highlights a number of warnings and allegations about the behaviour of Armstrong, jailed for life last year by Leeds Crown Court. A year before the murder, a senior social worker said Armstrong was likely to be a risk to any child he came into contact with. It also disclosed that he had been sexually abused as a child. had been accused of abusing three other children, was diagnosed as psychopathic had a violent past and drink and drugs problems.

Although much of his history was recorded in Co Durham, where he

grew up, the information was not passed to social service and health agencies when he moved to Cleveland and the flat close to Rosie's home.

The report said that although there were "inadequacies" in the care given to Armstrong, the authorities could not have known the degree of risk he posed or have predicted that he would eventually kill.

"The team conclude there were some inadequacies in care, but believe even if those inadequacies had not existed Armstrong's behaviour - and therefore the risk to others - could not have been predicted."

It added: "The inadequacies in the

care of Armstrong arose directly from shortcomings in clinical history-taking and in poor communications."

Beverley Palmer, Rosie's mother. rejected the report's claim that Armstrong's actions could not have been avoided. She said she could not accept the reasons given for Armstrong being allowed to move into the community. "I will never trust the

authorities again," she said. Marjorie Wallace, chief executive of Sane, said: "This is another appalling catalogue of blunders." She added that it was "a clear case where mental health teams and care in the community failed everyone".

Now you don't have to live in Beverly Hills to afford a face lift.



shrimp aids robot research

By Peter Foster

A PSYCHEDELIC shrimp with colour vision unrivalled in the animal kingdom could hold the key to a future generation of robots.

Dr Justin Marshall, a neuroscientist at Sussex University, has discovered that the eyes of the mantis shrimp, Odontodactylus scyllarus, contain at least twelve visual pigment types, three times that of humans. No other creature has more than five

pigment types. The shrimp's violent feed-ing habits — it stabs its prey with powerful front limbs were used to show its powers of colour vision. Dr Marshall put food into coloured cubes which the shrimps smashed to eat. They rejected empty grey cubes. Tests showed that the section of the shrimp's eye which deals with colour is each receptive to a different colour, unlike human beings, whose eyes process colour in

an integrated way. It is this system of parallel rather than integrated visual processing which has been used by engineers as a model for designing robots. In the future it may be possible to create robots with infra-red and ultra violet capabilities.

Colourful | Cancer link to radon in homes unproved

HIGH levels of radon gas in the home do not generally lead to an increased incidence of cancer, according to a survey in Devon and Cornwall.

With the exception of nonmelanoma skin cancers people in the two counties ranno greater risks of developing cancer despite higher levels of the gas in their homes. The findings of a team from Bristol? University contrast with government assertions that increased levels of radon - an invisible gas that seeps into houses from the soil - increase the risk of cancers.

Reporting in the European Journal of Cancer, the team says there is substantial evidence to link radon with lung cancer among uranium miners, but an association hetween domestic radon and cancer is controversial.

sity stud ered 1.4 million people and matched known cancer cases: with certified radon levels. Only with non-melanoma? skin cancers was a link apparent between cases and highlevels of radon.

Dr David Etherington, from the unit, said: "It is reassuring that our study does not support a large-scale risk." from elevated radon levels."

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Commons is in decline as the real action goes on elsewhere

become largely irrelevant to the main political debate. Business is light and the whips undernanding. Two or three dozen MPs — and many fewer journalists - listened to yesterday's exchanges on the Competitiveness White Paper. There are occasional interludes of high drama, or more often of low comedy with the fractiousness and indiscipline on the Tory benches: the Cash Bill on a referendum and yesterday's much exaggerated fuss over the casualty unit at Edgware Hospital. But the real action is elsewhere in

Brussels and other European capi-

tals over the beef ban and in Belfast over Northern Ireland. This is only partly a pre-election phenomenon, the desire of the Tory whips to minimise opportunities for controversy and revolt.

More important is the underlying decline in the influence of Parliament relative to the executive, European institutions, the judges and the media. This is in part because the Commons is inadequate in performing its allotted roles of scrutiny and legislating. As a cautiously reforming leader of the Commons, Tony Newton has introduced some sensible reforms to its working hours

RIDDEL ONPOLITICS

and the like. But these do not go to the heart of problem of the current failures of Parliament.

A month ago, Labour proposed a series of changes to strengthen the role of the Commons in the preparation and discussion of legislation and in monitoring the executive and top public appointments. The Liberal Democrats are about to produce their own paper drafted by a working group chaired by Michael Ryle, a former senior Commons clerk. Its ap-

proach is along the same lines as Labour's on improving consultation and debate on legislation, though going much further in roposing changes to the character of the Commons.

The Liberal Democrats would give the Commons more opportunity not just to debate government spending plans but also to change the details. Some of the ideas are a little far-fetched, such as giving the Speaker the discretionary authority to allow a backbencher a second supplementary question if. in the Speaker's opinion, the Prime Minister had failed completely to answer any question".

the proposal to allow MPs other than ministers to move amendments increasing expenditure or taxation would be rightly resisted by the Treasury for further increasing the bias in the system in

favour of higher public spending. Sensible though a number of the ideas are in their own terms, the Liberal Democrat proposals, like Labour's, are flawed. They both rest on unrealistically high expectations of what backbenchers can do. Reformers always propose more work for select committees without considering either wheth-

That would guarantee frequent challenges to the Chair. Similarly.

er they can handle the additional responsibilities or party ties and constraints. Select committees ought to be more involved in discussing legislation in the preparatory stages and in the regular monitoring of departmental expenditure plans. But this will not work unless the structure of the Commons changes.

The present career pattern of the Commons and the ambitions of most members favour service on the government or opposition front benches rather than on select committees. A prerequisite for giving select committees more work to do is to reduce the relative

size of the executive - and the shadow teams as well - from the present 85-plus on each side. And, as the Liberal Democrat paper suggests, the chairmen of committees and other key members might receive additional pay "to encourage an alternative career structure for MPs, independent of ministerial appointment". This is separate from the wider proposals for constitutional reform (on devolution, the Lords etc. which both main opposition parties have made. But Commons reform will only work if it takes account of the ambitions, interests and party loyalties of MPs themselves.

Lilley challenges poverty of 'video and freezer society'

By Dominic Kennedy, social affairs correspondent

THE poor have been getting richer faster than the rest of the population and most now have their own fridge-freezers. video recorders and cars. Peter Lilley said yesterday.

The Social Security Secretary presented the results of one of the largest studies of income during a speech on Christian values to show how the free market generates the wealth necessary to "help the helpless and enable the able". His analysis contrasts stark-

ly with major reports on poverty, particularly the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's recent inquiry, which showed the gap between rich and poor was the widest for 50 years. Mr Lilley, an Anglican

also attacked Tony Blair for trying to monopolise the country's Christian heritage.

He disclosed the results of a study he had commissioned which was the first to examine how individuals earnings had changed over the past decade and a half, drawing on a large sample of National Insurance records of 89,000 men aged 25

"It challenges any contention that those on low earnings generally saw their earnings fall," he told the congregation southeast London, "Indeed, it

ers saw their incomes rise

The study, to be published in the next fortnight was prepared by Department of Social Security statisticians using a huge sample of almost I per cent of earners, which makes the figures particularly

Nearly three-quarters of the group had higher real earnings in 1993 than in 1978. But of those who began in the lowest tenth, more than 90 per cent were earning more 15 vears later.

Although those on low income were most prone to unemployment, fewer than one in a hundred stayed on unemployment, sickness or incapacity benefits throughout the period. Of those leaving work and receiving benefit in any year about three quarters appeared to get back into work the following year. The earnings of the bottom fifth rose proportionately more than the top fifth from 1979, by 42 per cent against 33 per cent.

Mr Lilley said the spending of the lowest tenth of earners he carefully avoided describing them as poor - had increased by 30 per cent since 1979. Although fewer than a third of that group had a fridge-freezer then, 84 per cent

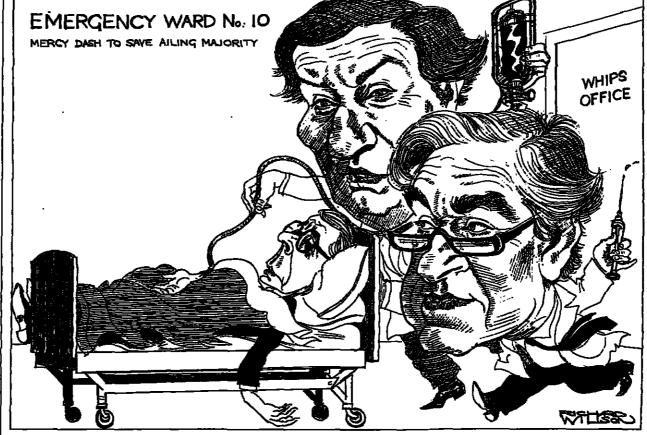
have a video, now nearly three quarters did. Car ownership had risen from 40 per cent to

"To most people the idea that well over half the group alleged to demonstate everdeepening poverty nonetheless have a car at least gives pause for thought," he said. Mr Lilley went on: "If

poverty is a moral issue, then work is a moral issue too. There can be no bigger challenge than helping people off welfare and into work. The Church has always, and properly, concerned itself with the least well off. But the greatest help we can give them is to help them help themselves."

But Andrew Dilnott of the respected Institute for Fiscal Studies said: "There can be no doubt that inequality in living standards has grown very dramatically." Most of the population have seen stan-dards rise by a third but the large numbers on benefits have seen them only increase just above inflation.

Chris Smith, the Shadow Social Security Secretary. said: "It simply beggars belief for Peter Lilley to claim that he wants to help the worst off, when he has spent the last few years trapping the unem-ployed on benefit and attacking the disabled, lone parents and those fleeing persecution."



Tory backbenchers are finding small majority a big temptation

POLITICAL REPORTER

A GOVERNMENT with a small Commons majority cannot escape the danger of blackmail from its own

The threat by Sir John Gorst and Hugh Dykes to resign the whip over the potential closure of a hospital

the latest example of MPs flexing their muscles. Since Peter Thurnham, MP for Bolton North East, resigned from the Tories in February and cut John Major's majority to one, a growing number are tempted to emerge from obscurity and hold the Government to ransom.

Potential rebels have three options. They can vote against the Government on a particular issue, resign the whip and vote against the Government on everything, or, most damagingly, resign from Parliament and force a by-election.

Last week Terry Dicks, the maverick MP for Hayes and Harlington, threatened to resign the whip over concessions to Sinn Fein in the Northern Ireland peace talks. Both Julian Critchley, MP for Aldershot, and George Walden, MP for Buckingham.

pect of resigning over the Government's handling of the beef crisis and other European issues. Sir George Gardiner, veteran rightwinger and MP for Reigate, has threatened to resign from Parliament and force a byelection if his local party fails to reselect him.

In practice few MPs resign the whip. With a government majority of one, no Tory MP wants to pass into history as the man who ended 17 years

Although threaten to resign on matters of principle, most do so for political advantage. Either they wish to extract concessions from the Government, or they simply want to win the support of their constituents. In 1986, Michael Brown hinted that he might resign if

the Government dumped

popular among his constitu-ents, still dines out on the story today. "There was no question of me bringing the Government down," he said. "I wasn't holding a pistol to the Government's head, but to my own." In the 1960s Ted Leadbitter. a Labour MP, campaigned to

remove a telegraph pole from a constituent's garden. After months of government inaction, he wrote to Tony Benn, then the Postmaster General.

and Cleethorpes constituency.

Despite a majority of 140.

Margaret Thatcher backed

down and the MP, hugely

threatening to resign. Within hours, the pole was removed. However, MPs always risk having their bluff called. It is one thing to talk tough to impress constituents, it is another to lose their friends and party in Westminster.

Hospital dispute that would not die

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

decision to close Edgware General Hospital immediately provoked strong and emotional opposition when it was announced in October 1993 by Barnet Health Agency

Hands Off Our Hospital, a pressure group consisting of patients, doctors, staff and politicians, organised a wave of demonstrations and petitions to keep it open.

Sir John Gorst, Hugh Dykes and John Marshall, all local Tory MPs, joined a. march of 900 people on the anniversary of the announcement but the hospital still seemed doomed.

Virginia Bottomley, then the Health Secretary, wanted to downgrade Edgware from a district general to a small local hospital, with no casualty or in-patient services by 1997. Patients would have had to be shuttled by ambulance

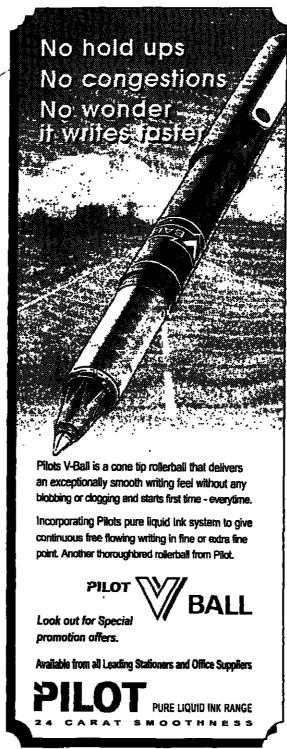
The Tory MP Sir Rhodes Boyson described the closure as the biggest issue in the 21 years he had represented his Brent North constituency.

Mrs Bottomley's handling of her health reforms for London contributed to her losing her post in command of the politically sensitive Department of Health before the general election.

The Tomlinson inquiry in had recommended swingeing cuts in hospital beds in the capital, including closing the world-renowned Bart's and Guy's. Mrs Bottomley was tough enough to accept his report and tackle NHS for a generation - the comparative over-provision of health care in London.

In May last year, a Commons rebellion by five London Tories failed to win a reprievefor Edgware. But Stephen Dorrell, her successor, met Hands Off Our Hospital in December and agreed to re-









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Blair to launch publicity blitz in battle for wavering voters

BY JILL SHERMAN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

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TONY BLAIR will mount an unprecedented campaign to sell Labour's manifesto programme to the voters over the next few weeks.

The draft manifesto, to be put to a ballot of Labour's 376,000 members in the autumn, will be published on July 4 amid a publicity blitz to advertise the party's "new contract with the people".

Labour will also distribute a new tabloid newspaper to hundreds of thousands of selected households in an effort to convince voters that it has a set of radical policies. Mr Blair wants to persuade non-members and potential party switchers that Labour has changed but will still offer something different from the Major Government.

The high-profile campaign is designed to counter accusations that Labour has few ideas and that those that it does have are similar to the

Mr Blair and Robin Cook. the Shadow Foreign Secre-tary, are working against the clock to finish the glossy document that will enshrine Labour's main policy commitments for a first parliamentary term. Senior policy advisers have been working on the document since the end of March, when Mr Blair announced that he would launch the biggest ever consultation project on his plans for government - the Road to the

Previous policy papers and speeches have been edited so that their core elements can be incorporated into the manifes-"contract with the people". But Mr Blair is said to be keen to sharpen the document further and Shadow Cabinet members are still arguing about what it should contain.

The paper, which will have an introduction by Mr Blair. will have fewer than 40 pages. It will not contain Labour's main tax plans, which will be spelt out nearer the general election. Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has ensured that most policies have been stripped of spending

pledges. The only references to spending are expected to be a commitment to a windfall tax on privatised utilities, to fund jobs and training schemes for young people; a pledge to reallocate \$60 million from the assisted places scheme to reduce class sizes in infant schools; and Mr Brown's plan to scrap child benefit for 16 to 18-year-olds, raising £600 million to help youths from poorer families to stay at

school or college.

The paper will make clear that Labour has abandoned many of the policies in its 1992 manifesto, such as the commitments to increase pensions by £5 a week and raise child benefit. Labour will no longer impose a compulsory training levy on employers. It will not call for the renationalisation of privatised utilities, and is likely to take a softer line on the renationalisation of British Rail. It will also abandon the commitment to cut defence spending and will soften plans for the proposed Scottish assembly to have tax-raising

Over the next two weeks the leadership will rush out some of Labour's most controversial policies in a series of documents and speeches. These will include plans to overhaul the state pension system and a programme to get people off benefit and into work. There will also be revised policies on health, foreign policy and the labour market.

Labour will stick to its position on a single currency - it supports monetary union but only under if certain economic criteria are met. It will also guarantee to consult the people either through a referendum or a general

The three policies still being drafted are on welfare-towork, including measures to reduce means testing and to encourage single mothers to tion to the National Health Service reforms; and on trade The education and employ-

ment team is finalising a document setting out trade union and workers' rights. Many of Labour's pledges are expected to be dropped although no decisions have yet been reached. The team's paper will reaffirm Labour's commitment to a minimum wage while refusing to set a figure. But it is expected to fall short of John Smith's promise to introduce full employment

rights for all workers, including part-timers, from the day they start work.

The manifesto document. which will go to the party conference for ratification in October, will be split into four main headings. Opportunity economy: in-

cluding Labour's plans for lifelong learning, welfare reforms and sound finance One Nation society: health, safe communities, environment and education

□ New polities: decentralisation, local government, citizens rights and Ireland ☐ Leadership in the world: Europe, defence and foreign affairs.

The Shadow Cabinet will ratify the document the week before it goes before the National Executive Committee on July 2, two days before its

Mr Blair will emphasise the need to take tough choices and will make clear that some Shadow ministers will not be able to press ahead with plans they regard as vital as soon as they might like. The document is likely to include, however.

Jack Straw's plan to introduce curiews for children under

In the introduction, Mr Blair will argue that the nation's renewal depends on stakeholding "where everyone has an opportunity to contribute and a responsibility to participate".

To coincide with the launch, Labour will have a party political broadcast and distribute thousands of leaflets highlighting five key pledges. These are expected to be simple phrases such as "Labour will introduce smaller classes for school children" or "Labour will guarantee every youth between 18 to 25 a job or a training place".

The launch will be followed by a national tour by Tony Blair and Shadow Cabinet members, who will put the party's message across as they did for the Clause Four roadshow. If the document is ratified by the party conference it will be put to a ballot of all party members in the also expected to ballot most of



Tony Blair: seeking to counter accusations that new Labour has few original ideas

Labour shifts policy on lottery profits

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR watered down yesthe National Lottery operator to be barred from making a profit, suggesting that a cap on earnings might be intro-

duced instead. National Heritage Secretary. gave a clear warning that in government Labour would curb the profits of the operator when the lottery licence was renewed in 2001. But he backed away from previous suggestions that the licence would go to a non-profit-

making organisation. In a speech to a business seminar in London, Mr Cunningham said that a limit on profits, along the lines pro-posed by Labour for the

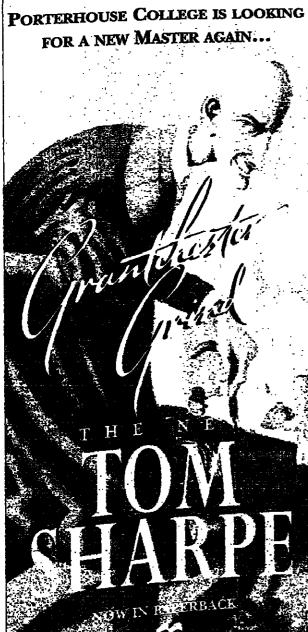
alternative to barring profits altogether. Camelot, the present lottery operator, welcomed the apparent shift, with senior figures suggesting that Labour had recognised the difficulties in its original plan.

Mr Cunningham criticised the gains made by Camelot but made clear there would be no change to the rules in advance of a new licence being

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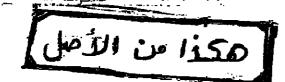
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Evidence of harm from even a single dose is indisputable in animal experiments, say professors

Highs are not worth the lows says survivor

By Carol Midgley

JULIAN MADIGAN was 16 years old when he and a friend first "necked" half an Ecstasy "tab" each in a night-club. That evening utterly cuphoric and bursting with energy, they danced through the night convinced they had found the perfect buzz.

Within three years, he was taking up to ten tablets every weekend condemning himself to three days of absolute depression each week. The black moods, where he could not be bothered to speak to anybody, were caused by the lack of serotonin in the brain, which experts fear could lead to psychiatric problems.

Users become so accustomed to the artificial happiness the drug brings that ordinary life seems too bleak to contemplate. Mr Madigan, now 20, said: "I would neck my last tab of the weekend on Sunday afternoon. Mondays. Tuesdays and Wednesdays were a complete low. I was so depressed, I couldn't even remember them. I would just mope around the house not communicating with anyone. I had no interest in what was happening around me. My

parents were like strangers.
"All I could think of was getting round to Thursday, when I would take my first one of the weekend. Then I the life and soul of the party." Mr Madigan, who is now off the drug, said he and his friends were aware of the warnings about brain damage. "I knew you only have a certain limited amount of serotonin, but when you are young, off your head and happy, you don't care. The high you get is brilliant and

you think you can live forever. "There was a chap who lived down the road from us in Dublin who was taking the pills for two years. He decided he needed help, so he contact-ed counsellors. But one day his mother came home and found he had hanged himself. The verdict at the inquest just said death by misadventure, but it was directly caused by Ecstasy. It scared me.

I began dealing to feed my own habit, and got beaten up by some other dealers. When my dad saw my battered face, he'd had enough and got me to a counsellor. Now I am happy that when I wake up. I don't have a drug craving.

Mr Madigan has written a book about his ordeal, The Agony of Ecstasy. He hopes to represent Ireland in the 100 metres at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, but he still does not know how much he damaged his brain or vital organs in three years' regular use. He is soon to have a full medical to



Julian Madigan with his father Gerry: "I have had to relearn how to feel love"

secure life assurance which will include a scan of his liver. kidney and brain. The prospect frightens him.

He said: "Ecstasy obscures all your real emotions and gives you artificial ones. I have had to relearn how to feel love. It has taken a long

Dr Philip Maguire, of the Institute of Psychiatry in London, is treating hospital patients who are users of Ecstasy. He believes the long-term risk to mental health is

more alarming than the death rate, because of the numbers of people taking it, but it was impossible to prove that the drug was the direct cause.

"In the late 1980s people

started showing up at hospitals asking for treatment and it became apparent they had taken lots of Ecstasy," he said.

Paul Betts, whose daughter Leah died after taking an Ecstasy tablet on her 18th birthday last year, said he had been trying to stress the risk of

the drug. Mr Betts, from Latchingdon, Essex, said: "There are three young people 1 know, aged 17, 19 and 23, who were regular users, taking up to nine tablets in a weekend, and are now in psychiatric care. "If you think about it, the thousands of young people taking Ecstasy now are this country's future doctors, teachers and MPs. If they are going to be suffering

depression in later years at

such a large scale, we are in

Ecstasy use likely to cause long-term damage to brain

ECSTASY

Ecstasy - or E - has

rapidly gained populari-ty as the drug of the rave culture. In the late 1980s

young people were pay-

ing £20 a tablet but the

cost has steadily drop-

ped to as little as £5. Many young girls spurn alcohol in favour of a

drug which they believe is less harmful for their

liver and has no calories. Researchers

have found children as

young as 12 taking the

usage is reported, with children too young to get

into nightclubs taking it

the serotonin receptors in the

brain. Serotonin is a brain

chemical which plays an im-

portant role in regulating

mood and researchers believe

that damage to the receptors

will result in chronic depres-

Professor Green said: "The

damage has been shown in so

many species there is no doubt

about it. It is not just seen with

high doses. You can use low

sion in later life.

drug and "couch-po

ECSTASY, the recreational drug taken by about 500,000 young people every week, may cause irreversible brain damage and chronic depression.

experts say. In the strongest warning yet about the dangers of the drug, two professors say that evidence that it causes brain damage in animals is now unequivocal. Even a single dose can have irreversible

Richard Green, Professor of Pharmacology and head of the Astra Neurosciences Research Unit in London, and Guy Goodwin, Professor of Psychi-arry at the Medical Research Council's brain metabolism unit in Edinburgh, say that the alarm about sudden deaths linked to Ecstasy has distracted from the long-term damage it causes.

Ecstasy has been linked with about 60 deaths since 1987. Concern grew after the death of Leah Betts, who

collapsed during her 18th birthday party last November. Some experts have argued that the number of deaths is small in relation to the number of users but the professors say the evidence on Ecstasy's long-term effects is grim. Studies in rats and monkeys have

shown that the drug damages

are worrying signs of similar damage in humans. A study of 30 regular users of Ecstasy found that they had lower levels of serotonin in their cerebro-spinal fluid.

Writing in the British Medical Journal, the professors say that because of the role of serotonin in controlling mood, regular use of Ecstasy "might be expected to lead to psychiatric abnormalities". Users have been reported to have suffered

mental breakdowns, they say. "What is of great concern is the possibility that problems such as major depression will appear only in several years'

A study in Sheffield showed that a single dose of Ecstasy equivalent to that taken by a human caused considerable degeneration in the brains of rats. Although some repair may occur, an American study of squirrel monkeys showed that damaged neurones grew back abnormally. An added worry is that individuals who metabolise the drug quickest may be at lower risk from the acute toxic effects, which are caused by the drug itself, but at increased risk from the longterm effects, which are likely to be caused by one of its

Labels on 'Scottish' salmon may tell a fishy tale

SCOTTISH salmon can be a red herring, according to the Consumers' Association. Most customers do not realise that when they buy "Scottish" smoked salmon it is quite likely to be Norwegian and could come from anywhere in

The two quality assurance schemes for Scottish smoked salmon do not guarantee Scottish origin, the association says. Only products labelled "Smoked Scottish salmon" or "Scottish salmon smoked in Scotland* must have been fished or farmed in Scotland.

Promotions include: Asda: boneless pork leg joint WEEKEND SHOPPING

£3.49 per kg, Chinese leaf 49p a head, melons 89p each. mangoes 49p each.

Budgens: premium pork sau-sages El 29 for 454g. Davidstow mature cheddar £1.99 a lb. Braeburn apples 59p a lb. Co-op: turkey breast steaks £3.29 for four, garlic ciabatta 99p for 230g, thin pork and

beef sausages 55p for 227g. Harrods: fresh swordfish steaks £1.82 for 100g, fresh tuna steaks £1.43 for 100g. Iceland: chicken tikka with peanut sauce £1.19 for six, Chinese bites £1.59 for 195g. trout £2.99 for 800g, garden peas £1.79 for 1.8kg.

Marks & Spencer: English strawberries £1.99 for 300g, fresh whipped cream 75p for 190g, tarte au citron £2.75. Morrisons: garlic bread 99p for two, Ski extra-fruit yoghurt 95p for four, Yoplait petit filous 89p for six. Safeway: beef rump 57.49 per

kg, skinless chicken breast fillets £4.39 for 567g, red peppers 89p a lb, strawberries Sainsbury's: boneless chicken

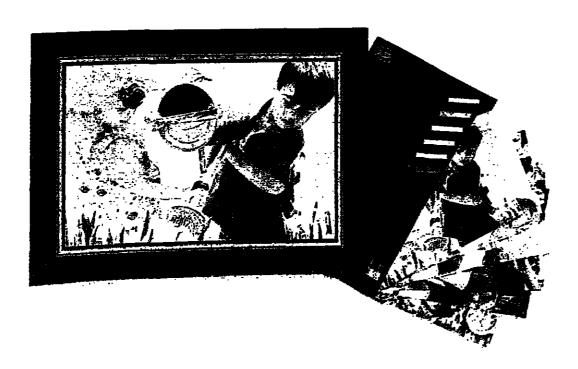
breasts £3.95 for 454g, large whole trout £4.16 kg, red peppers 99p lb. Somerfield: beef topside/

silverside/rump with added basting fat £4.36 per kg, fresh smoked haddock fillet £1.69 a lb, baking potatoes 29p a lb. Tesco: rump steak £7.59 a kg. new-season half shoulder lamb £3.63 per kg, boneless shoulder of pork £2.79 per kg. haddock fillets £1.98 a lb. Waitrose: Aberdeen Angus beefburgers 69p for 170g,

salmon steaks £2.49 for 270g. large dressed Cromer crabs

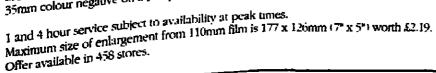
ROBIN YOUNG

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of which is "Doubting Thomas. Does
he still exist today?"

Yours faith fully, The Rev Michael Wells.



Falling Child

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Rodney Bloker and general secretary.

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Falling birth rate will lead to first drop in Britain's population, family study says

· Childlessness rises as women put work first

AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

CHILDLESSNESS will double in Britain as more women leave it too late to start a family, according to a government forecast

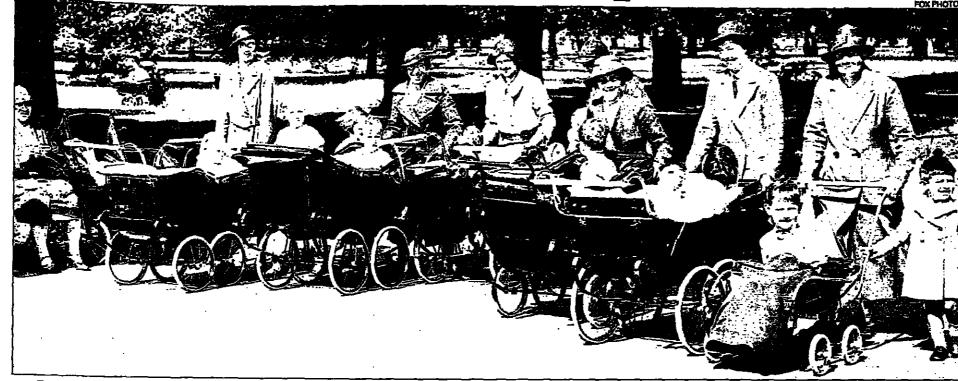
One in five women now in their late 20s and early 30s will never have a child, it predicts - twice as many as the generation now in their early 50s. The falling birth rate, if sustained, will also mean that the population of Britain will drop for the first time since records began.

The forecast, in Population Trends, published by the Office of National Statistics, shows that the proportion of women in England and Wales who were childless at 45 rose to 13 per cent in 1994 from 10 per cent in 1989. On current trends, it will rise to 20 per cent within 15 to 20 years.

The rise in childlessness reflects a trend among women towards having children at a later age and putting careers before family. Birth rates have risen sharply among women in their 30s and fallen among those in their 20s. But. because fertility declines with age, an increasing proportion of women are finding they have

left it too late to have children. Fiona McAllister, of the Family Policy Studies Unit, who is heading a research project on childlessness, said that money and education influenced women's decisions about having children. "Studies show that childless women tend to be better educated ... Women with O levels were twice as likely to say they did not intend to have children as

those with no qualifications." The average number of children born to each woman



Prams on parade: nannies line up in Hyde Park in 1937. The average number of children born to women peaked at three in the 1960s, but has now fallen to a low of 1.8

has fallen from a peak of three in the 1960s to 1.8 in 1994. The fertility rate has been below the level of 2.1 necessary to replace the population for the past 20 years.

Although there was a blip in the population figures in 1983, that fall was not sustained. Births are still exceeding deaths because the "baby boom" generation of the 1960s is just coming to its maximum child-producing age, but statisticians expect deaths to exceed births by 2020. The last time deaths outnumbered births was probably after the Great Plague in 1665.

Bob Armitage, of the ONS fertility unit. said: "We are likely to have a population which is more heavily weighted towards the elderly and with too few workers in it." Immigration was unlikely to fill the gap, he said.

British women are following a European trend, led by Italy and Spain, which at 1.2 children per woman, have the world's smallest families. Irish women have an average of 2 children, the French 1.7, Russians 1.4 and Germans 1.3. Many European countries are now managing by choice what the Chinese have to impose on their citizens: the one-child

"Nobody loves children more than the Italians." said Pat Murray of the pressure group Population Concern, "but they are having smaller families and trying to do the very best for them."

Family planning services and equal opportunities in the workplace have given British women the freedom to make their own choices. Childless role models from an earlier generation include Betty Boothroyd, 66, the first woman Speaker of the House Commons, and Baroness Castle, 85, the former Social

Services Secretary.
"There are obviously a lot of women who are deciding that they want another role in life." said Ms Murray.

Guernsey makes abortion legal

BY PHILLP JEUNE

GUERNSEY'S parliament voted by a two-thirds majority yesterday to legalise abortion before the twelfth week of pregnancy, provided that

two doctors approve.

The decision, after two days of emotional debate, ends an 86-year-old law that makes abortion punishable by life imprisonment. About 400 women from the Channel Islands travel to Britain each year for abortions. The 57 members of the

Guernsey parliament had been heavily lobbied by prolife campaigners claiming that four million abortions had taken place in Britain since Sir David Steel's Abortion Bill became law in 1967. During the debate one deputy, John Langiois, lik-ened abortion to the Holo-

caust, saying that "the termination of a pregnancy is the parents' Final Sol-ution". Pro-abortionists con-

demned the comparison. Conseiller Sue Plant, the president of Guernsey's Board of Health, said she was pleased that her colleagues had accepted her committee's proposals. "They have debated the issue as sensitively and responsibly as they could. They've had incredible heart-searching."

The Channel Islands remain the last area of the British Isles where abortion is illegal. Jersey approved legislation — by just one vote - in principle two years ago. The new law is due to return to Jersey's parliament for ratification in a few weeks.

Canadian attacks 'colonial' bishops

BY RUTH GLEDHILL

THE Archbishop who heads the Anglican Church in Canada is to attack the Church of England's bishops today for adopting an 18th-century "co-lonial" attitude towards the American Church over issues such as homosexual priests.

Archbishop Michael Peers, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, warns of an English attempt to demonise the American Church". Writing in The Church of England News-paper, he defends his Church against accusations that it is failing to uphold traditional teaching on homosexuality.

His attack comes in re-sponse to a warning from an English bishop that the American Church, where a bishop was recently cleared of a heresy charge after he knowingly ordained a homosexual. should uphold traditional teachings. Archbishop Peers says: "It sounds like the England we have known since colonial days, telling us what we must say and how we must say it." Some bishops will no longer accept "the same Eng-lish condescension and scolding to which we are long since

accustomed," he states. "The phenomenon of people in English palaces issuing warnings to other people across the Atlantic about positions they must hold, as well as about the consequences of failure to do so, sound like the madness of King George III." he says.

His heated letter brings into the open the cross-Atlantic battle over the ordination of homosexuals, which seems set to dominate the 1998 Lambeth conference, the ten-yearly meeting of the worldwide bishops of the Anglican communion.

It follows the decision by an American church court to clear the Right Rev Walter ... Righter, a retired Anglican bishop, of a heresy charge for knowingly ordaining a homo-sexual. In the wake of his acquittal, England's Bishop of Rochester, the Right Rev Michael Nazir-Ali, issued a public warning to the American Church, arguing that the Church's teaching needs "to be embodied in the lives of those who hold office in

British Gas women win £8m after being forced to retire at 60

By Michael Horsnell

FOUR hundred women who were made to retire at 60 by British Gas received £8.4 million compensation yesterday. The settlement followed a ten-year legal battle with the company and was negotiated by the public service union Unison. It will provide individuals with amounts ranging from £1,000 to £59,000, depending on length of service and

Rodney Bickerstaffe, the union's general secretary, said: "None of

these women wanted to retire at 60. They were all fit and well and capable of giving so much more to the industry." The agreement followed a test

case in the European Court of Justice in 1990: it took six years to trace former employees and negotiate compensation. The court ruled that British Gas, which retires men at 65, was "an emanation of the state" while a nationalised industry and was therefore bound by the European equal treatment directive. Unison said it remained uncertain

how the ruling would affect other privatised industries. Mr Bickerstaffe said the women

were doubly discriminated against, losing five years' pay and having a smaller pension than if they had been allowed to stay at work, like men, until 65.

Bruce Piper, the union's director of legal services, said: The legal process has taken a long time. We took the case right through the British legal system, including the House of Lords, which referred it to the European Court of Justice. Their

decision was much better than envisaged.

A condition of the settlement is that none of the women is allowed to say how much she has been given. Among those receiving compensation was Joyce Walters-Girout, 72. from London, who worked for British Gas's marketing services in the North Thames region. Mrs Walters-Girout, who was forced to retire in 1984, said: "At the time I was putting my daughter through university. My husband had died when my daughter was three years old. It was a struggle for me to carry on contributing towards my daughter's education.

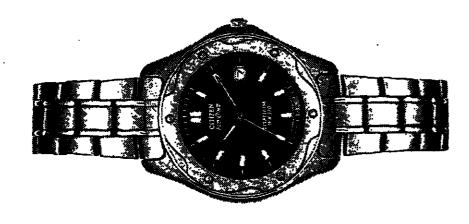
"I was very healthy and I was not ready to retire. The money I have received will help make life more comfortable for me.

Pat Turner, 78, from Solihull, West Midlands, was compulsorily retired in 1978 from her job in customer accounts. She said: "I did not want to retire. I asked to be put on a list to do part-time or casual work which sometimes came up during holiday periods, but even

that was denied to me because of my age. This money will help pay for a richly deserved holiday and to

augment my pension."
British Gas, which has dropped its policy of retiring women at 60. said: "This settlement, involving former female clerical staff of the pre-privatised British Gas Corporation, is a legacy from the past.
"The settlement provides graduat-

ed compensation based on lost salary and benefits, injury to feelings and interest depending on the date the claims were presented."



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Kohl helps to set Iron Chancellor back on his pedestal in Berlin



Otto von Bismarck at the height of his power

OTTO VON BISMARCK, the Prussian politician who united Germany with "blood and iron" is back in the heart of Berlin — as a bronze statue under the blood-red leaves of a

The unveiling of the statue, attended by about 50 members of the Bismarck family, marks a big step forward in the rehabilitation of the Iron Chancellor. And it comes at a time when more and more commentators are comparing the positive achievements of Bismarck with those of the Chancellor of the present united Germany, Helmut Kohl.

The statue shows the civilian Bismarck, a genial, slightly paunchy man with a floppy hat, walking stick and a strange, panther-like dog. The Greens and former Communists, the Party of Democratic Socialists, have registered noisy protests: "Pull the warmonger down from his pedestal!"

But Bismarck, treated by some as a national hero and by others as the villain who paved the way for a century of wars, is going to stay. The name of Bismarck has never been wiped off the map despite his patchy historical reputation. The statue is in Bismarck Square in the leafy Grüne-wald district of Berlin; elsewhere there are Bismarck herrings and Bismarck schnapps. The serious process of rehabilita-

tion began 18 months ago when the Government bought up the old railway station at Friedrichsruh, Bismarck's estate near Hamburg. The station will be used as the headquarters of a new Bismarck Foundation and will store about

10,000 personal documents belonging to the old Chancellor. Herr Kohl threw his weight behind the project. The full celebration of Bismarck's work will come in 1998, the 100th armiversary of his death.

German historians have never been able to agree on the correct placing of Bismarck. There is now broad rejection of the thesis that Bismarck in effect set Germany on course for the First World War; most German historians seem to agree that the basic problems took root after Kaiser Wilhelm "dropped the pilot". But it has proved difficult to justify or praise Bismarck's Kulturkampf, his sometimes ruthless campaign against the Roman Catholic Church, his wars with Austria and France, his anti-Polish policies, his accommodation with Russia and plan to establish African colonies.

These and other policies make it difficult to find Bismarck fans in France, Central Europe, in Bavaria (which is particularly suspicious of the creeping rehabilitation) or among Social Democrats and Liberals. The divisions even run down the Bismarck family. Although most of the family - grouped and numbered in a huge pedigree book rather like those kept by dog breeders - are conservatives, Bernd von Bismarck, the present chairman of the family association, is not besotted with his

ancestor. Herr von Bismarck wrote his doctoral thesis on socialist kibbutzim in Israel and seems to see the family name as both a historical burden and a responsibility. By contrast, the present head of the family, Friedrich, a familiar figure in Marbella clubland, sees it as his duty to correct the impression that Bismarck was in some way responsible for the rise of

Herr Kohl has ruled for almost 14 years. This autumn he will overtake Konrad Adenauer's stint, but Germany and Europe will have to be particularly patient if he is to rival Bismarck's record of about 20 years in power.

Even so, some of the positive, civilian Bismarck is slipping into the Chancellor's repertoire. He says, for example, that failure to create a European monetary union will usher in a new era of anti-German coalitions: a direct echo of Bismarck's cauchemar des coalitions (coalition nightmare). Even though he is trying to push through public spending cuts, Herr Kohl still sees himself as a defender of the social welfare system - which was set up by Bismarck.



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The young Kaiser "drops

Dispute over war crimes arrests mars Bosnia talks

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN FLORENCE

AN INTERNATIONAL conference to keep the Bosnian peace agreement on track opened yesterday with a disagreement over whether the conditions have been met for Bosnian elections to go ahead in September, as agreed under the Dayton accord.

Antonio Cassese, the president of The Hague war crimes tribunal, told the conference that Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, and General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb military commander, must be arrested as war criminals before the polls can open. He urged the international community to assert its "moral leadership" and take "drastic action".

He said if President Milosevic of Serbia failed to help to arrest the two men. Serbia and the Bosnian Serbs should be expelled from the Olympic Games in Atlanta, a move that would deal them an enormous psychological blow" at little cost.

Carl Bildt, the High Representative for the implementation of the peace agreement, said, however, that this was "not the most productive way to go about things". He said those individuals responsible for crimes against humanity" must be held accountable, and added that the Bosnian Serb refusal to accept the Dayton provision that "persons indict-ed cannot hold or stand for public office" was "a direct provocation against the international community"

Mr Bildt agreed that this situation could not be tolerated and offered "unwavering support" for Judge Cassese's efforts to bring to justice those who order and tolerate "massacres worse than anything Europe has seen since the brutality of Hitler and Stalin".

Mr Bildt said Dr Karadzic and General Mladic "should be detained as soon as possible", but added that their arrests could not be linked to the poll timetable. ☐ Brussels: Charles Millon,

the French Defence Minister, yesterday took his chair in the first full meeting of Nato defence ministers since de Gaulle withdrew from the alliance's military structure 30



Amanda Kendricks, 16, leaves a ranch in Jordan, Montana, escorted by an FBI agent, left, as hopes grew that an 81-day siege involving 100 FBI agents and 16 members of an anti-government group called the Freemen was about to end

Royal party boycotted by Turkish **Cypriots**

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU

DIPLOMATIC noses were decidedly out of joint at the British High Commissioner's residence in Nicosia this week when about 200 Turkish Cypriots failed to attend a cocktail party on the manicured lawns to celebrate the Oueen's birthday. It was seen as a snub to Britain and Her Majesty.

Attractions included a British military band, fish and chips, draft bitter and the micro-skirted Cordelia Madden, the High Commissioner's daughter, who is one of the most successful models in

Cyprus.
The Turkish Cypriots were turned back by their own authorities on Wednesday night when they tried to cross Nicosia's Checkpoint Charlie into the internationally recognised Greek Cypriot-controlled southern part of the city where David Madden, the High Commissioner.

"It is very sad they were not allowed to come," he said. Turkish Cypriot officials had suggested that the High Commission should hold the party in the UN-patrolled buffer zone, which they said would show a more even-handed attitude to the island's feuding communities. "We are considering our

response," said a British

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Winged invaders from North Africa take over Madrid

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

MILLIONS of large, whirring moths, many the size of a grown man's thumb, have invaded Madrid, unnerving residents and sowing panic among gardeners. The beige-and-silver insects.

which have pushed Euro 96 football to second place on local radio news, belong to the species Autographa gamma, so called because wing markings resemble the Greek letter. The moths, which lepidop-

terists will recognise as native. to North Africa, have been drawn in swarms to the city and its surrounding countryside by unusually lush vegetation, the result of the heaviest winter and spring rains in decades. And, since Madrid has little bird life, its ecosystem holds few terrors.

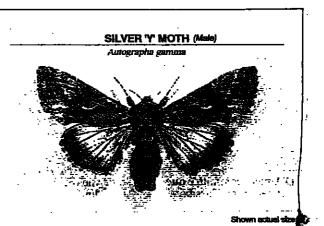
Madrileños, however, are at their wits' end. Clouds of moths enter homes during the sweltering summer nights, covering television screens. They black out streetlights. enter city buses and pursue cars, attracted by headlamps. Worse may be to come - a plague of caterpillars. Scientists predict each female

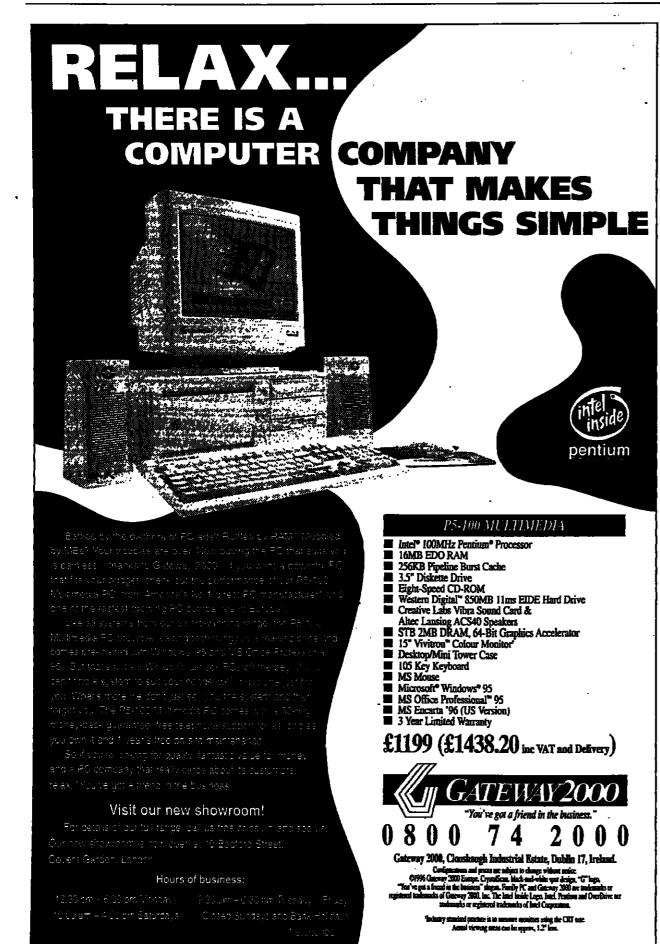
millions of fat, greedy grubs, devouring public gardens and private allotments. Some implications are too terrible even to contemplate. Since the caterpillars are particularly fond of potatoes. Madrileños may have to forgo

Autographa gamma will lay

about 2,000 eggs, leading to

Spanish omelette. Many are praying for drought next year.







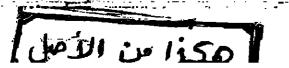
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GEN.

First Lady blamed by Whitewater senators for lost papers

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

tigators were quoted as saying

by the New York Daily News yesterday. "It's not reasonable

to think that anybody else left

The committee questioned

more than 200 people and

used FBI forensic specialists to

examine the notes, released by

the White House in January.

Sets of fingerprints found on the papers included those of Mrs Clinton. The White House said she had probably

handled them when her office

at the Rose Law Firm in

Arkansas was being cleared

Mark Fabiani, the White

House spokesman on White-

water, rejected the latest attacks, claiming that the committee was desperate to

undermine Mrs Clinton. "As

the First Lady testified and has

said publicly, she does not

know how the records came to

be discovered in the book

room at the White House," he

said. "Even though the First

Lady offered to answer ques-

tions in writing last February.

the committee never chose to

Mrs Clinton has stated under oath that she did mini-

mal work for Madison, but the

166 pages of billing records

show she had at least 14

meetings or conversations with an executive about a deal

that lost the bank \$3 million

It is clear the Whitewater

committee has found her the

most vulnerable target for its

inquiries. It has already said it

Thomases, her most trusted

confidante: and Harold Ickes.

the deputy White House chief of staff, who is especially close

(£1.96 million).

to Mrs Clinton.

ask her a single question."

during the 1992 campaign.

them there."

HILLARY CLINTON was catapulted to the heart of Whitewater again yesterday with fresh Republican evidence that she was the only suspect in the disappearance and sudden discovery of her own legal billing records.

The accounts of her legal work for Madison Guaranty. the corrupt Arkansas bank at the centre of the Whitewater affair, were subpoenaed in early 1994, but only surfaced last August after a Clinton aide discovered them in the guest quarters next to her White House private office. Mrs Clinton, who appeared

before a grand jury in Washington earlier this year to answer questions about the movements of these documents, has denied any knowledge of their presence in the White House. The Senate Whitewater committee. chaired by Alfonse D'Arnato. the New York senator, will issue its final report on Tuesday and is expected to say that the First Lady was responsible for concealing the records for up to two years.

The report will indicate that Hillary Rodham Clinton left the records in the book



D'Amato: committee due to report on Tuesday

Churches burn while spirit of the Klan rides again

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN BOLIGEF, ALABAMA

BOLIGEE is so tiny it is on the map only because there is nowhere bigger in this remote and impoverished corner of western Alabama. It has 278 inhabitants, a dilapidated cafe, a post office, a general store, one traffic light and churches — churches galore — but three less than it had six

The Mount Zion Baptist church, which stood in a lonely forest clearing off a tiny backroad three miles west of town, burnt to the ground the night of December 22.

On the evening of January Il Little Zion, another black church which had crowned a wooded hilltop south of Boligee for a century, went up in flames. That same night Mount Zoar, which stood on old plantation land east of Boligee, was destroyed by

No clues were found, no arrests have been made, but no one doubts the fires were arson. Yesterday another black church, this time in Enid, Oklahoma, was destroyed in a suspected arson atack, and last Monday the Rev Willie Coleman's Rising Star Baptist church was burnt to the ground in Greensboro. Over the past 18 months, 33

black churches have been torched in Southern states in a chilling echo of the civil rights era when Ku Klux Klan "night riders" destroyed more than 100 churches in neighbouring Mississippi alone.

What divides Boligee is the question of who set the three fires. Some locals expediently blame the white "redneck" deer hunters who pour into the densely wooded area each winter, but the three churches were so scattered and remote it would have been almost impossible for an outsider to have found them.

is seeking perjury charges against Margaret Williams, her chief of staff; Susan Boligee, which is 85 per cent black, still practises de facto segregation. White children go to a private school, blacks to the public school. Whites



Leroy Smith, left, and Matthew Williams sift through the rubble of the Little Zion Church near the tiny settlement of Boligee, Alabama

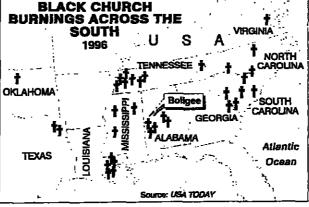
at the shop. Buddy Lavender, a 68-year-old catfish farmer who serves as Boligee's May-or, policeman and fire chief, says he knows many fine blacks, but candidly admits they "don't come over to eat supper". Above all, the two races worship separately. There are 98 black churches

in the surrounding county. which has a population of just 10,000 and is one of America's poorest. Most were established before blacks had cars or when they were slaves.

They are simple structures tucked away down back roads with tiny congregations and part-time pastors, but they remain the anchors of Southern black life and potent symbols of black independence.

The arsons "are attacks on the black community", insists Barrown Lankster, the black district attorney. "My belief is that they are racially and hate

To judge by the dingy office of Spiver Gordon, a local veteran of the civil rights struggle who marched with Martin Luther King, most of



littered on Wednesday with three- and four-figure cheques from well-wishers across the country who, thanks to the recent publicity, have contributed more than \$100,000 (£65,000) to rebuild the

On the day President Clinton was visiting a burnt South Carolina church, Mr Gordon was deluged with interview requests from the national media.

Outside, patiently waiting to see him, were representa-tives of the Quaker and Men-

nonite churches who are sending hundreds of white volunteers to Boligee this summer to help with the

"It's a response by the people of God to the suffering of God's people," said Harold Confer, the Quaker representative. "Everyone's place of worship is diminished by church burnings or desecrations, wherever they occur."

rebuilding.

Only local whites, Mr Lavender included, challenge the conventional wisdom. They suggest the nation has been



Rev Willie Coleman

hoodwinked and insinuate the blacks themselves may have burnt their churches. On Wednesday afternoon

the bearded, bespectacled Mayor left his catfish and crawfish ponds to give a private tour of Boligee in a pick-up truck equipped with a semi-automatic rifle, a pumpaction sawn-off shotgun and a

He labelled some black youths outside the store crack dealers. He dubbed a public housing complex the "incuba-tor" because young black girls

on welfare "made babies" there. He suggested the offici-als of some black churches dealt in drugs and bootlegged He could not or would not

say whether the Klan still existed locally, but bluntly asserted that "the white male is the most discriminated against person in Alabama". Mr Lavender would not, as Mayor, directly accuse the blacks of torching their

churches but steered us towards Pamela Montgomery, white founder of a bi-racial citizens' pressure group. She called the burnings a "huge smokescreen" and suggested the blacks who now monopolised the county government had ordered the fires to divert the attention of

federal investigators from

their corruption. This white anger and suspicion may or may not be justified, but it could conceivably have driven a white to burn the churches. Just one thing is certain. Next month's Atlanta Olympics will showcase the "New South" to the world, but the Old South is not dead yet.

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Baptists boycott Disney over tolerance of gays

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

BAPTISTS in the United States have voted to boycott the Walt Disney group, its toys, films and theme parks, unless it stops supporting homosexuals and "disparaging" the Christian values it

once so solidly represented. The Southern Baptist Convention, meeting in New Orleans, voted strongly in favour of action against Disney, which has recently lost its good standing among many "Bible Belters". Disney reacted angrily, describing the move as "curious".

The 13,000 members of the convention, representing 16 million Southern Baptists. criticised the company for extending benefits to homosexual employees' compan-

Cheaper insurance Admiral 0800 600 800 ions. It also objected to Disney releasing violent and sexually exolicit films via one of its subsidiaries, Miramax, which is among the canniest, most competitive of film distribution companies. The Baptists singled out a

British-made Miramax film, Priest, which featured a Roman Catholic priest who comes out as a homosexual. Priest. starring Linus Roache and Cathy Tyson and directed by Antonia Bird, was a 1995 hit on the film festival circuit. Miramax also distributed Kids, which looked at adolescent sex, and a Disney publishing subsidiary produced the book Growing Up Gay: From Left Out to Coming

The convention motion called on Baptists to boycott Disney Company stores and theme parks if they continue this anti-Christian and antifamily trend". Nancy Victory, the head of the resolutions committee, said: "The Disney Company is not the same Disney that it was when we were growing up. We find there is a philosophical shift at the highest levels of the company which is not friendly to families and people of laith."

The resolution also attacked gay days" held at Disney World at which homosexuals gather, usually in late June, for a day of fellowship. "In recent years the Disney Company has given the appearance that the promotion of homosexuality is more important than its historic commitment to traditional family values," said the Baptists.

The Rev Richard Land questioned Disney's interpretation of "family". He said: "Are we going to hear next that Mickey has left Minnie for Donald? That would be Goofy." Disney said: We find it

curious that a group that claims to espouse family values would vote to boycott the world's largest producer of wholesome family entertainment." Disney said it would not rescind the benefits extended to employees' gay partners. The company probably realises it might open itself to legal action if it tried to do so. The company added: We

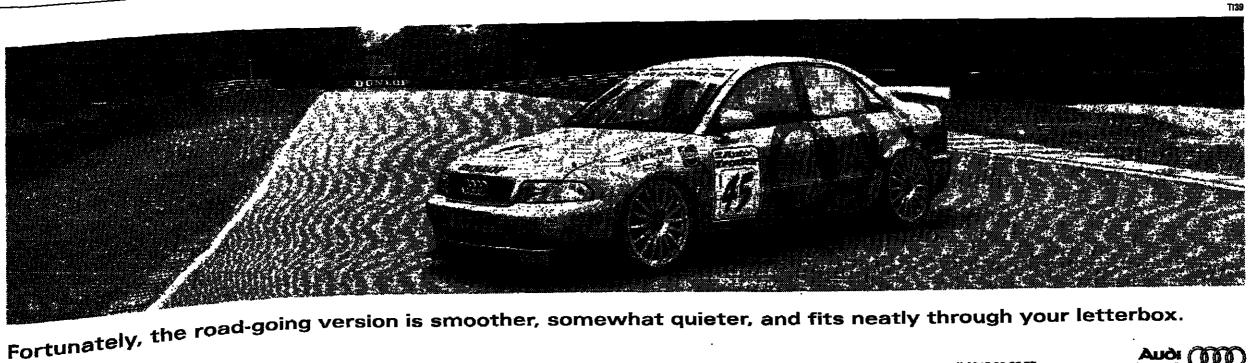
question any group that demands that we deprive people health benefits, and we know of no tourist destination in the world that denies admission to people as the Baptists are insisting we do."



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Arrest of **Arafat** rights fears

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

CONCERN about human rights abuses in areas con-trolled by Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, grew yes-terday with claims by one of the best known Palestinian human rights activists in Gaza that he had been framed on a drugs charge and that his life was in danger.

In a letter smuggled out of Gaza prison, Eyad Sarraj, a psychiatrist and director of the Independent Palestinian Commission for Citizens' Rights, who was arrested on Sunday, wrote: "I have been beaten and my life is in danger. Rescue me. The situation is dangerous."

Dr Sarraj, well known among liberal circles in Brit-ain, has made a name as an outspoken critic of the Palestinian Authority led by Mr Arafat. Last month he was arrested and accused of slandering the self-rule authority in an interview with The New York Times in which he said: "I say this with sadness, but during the Israeli occupation I was a hundred times freer. I wrote in the Israeli press and the Arab press. Today I am boycotted by our press and television.

He was released after 18 days when he had published an apology to Mr Arafat. But on Tuesday, more than 24 hours after the latest arrest. Palestinian police searched the Gaza Mental Health Centre and allegedly found 95 grams of hashish among his papers. Palestinian Legisla-tive Council members said the drugs had been planted.

Lawrence Freedman, page 20



Arafat: given personal apology by liberal foe

Outcry over critic raises 'dead babies' adoption racket in Australia

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

6 A sheet was

held over the

THE Australian Government has rejected calls for a national inquiry into claims that thousands of single mothers were told their illegitimate babies had died, so that the children could be adopted.

The scandal has surfaced decades later, after many of the offspring decided to contact their natural mothers. Social groups say the incidents nothing short of

kidnapping". Reports of the fake deaths emerged in Tasmania, where it was claimed that up to 50 to find their biological mothers in recent years. Within

days, similar being made in Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland,

mother so the child could be New South removed without Wales. being seen 9 But it was a

report by the New South Wales Law Reform Commission that provided proof that some of the allegations were true. The document detailed several cases where mothers were drugged and tricked into

signing adoption papers, or falsely told that their babies

"The Commission heard of birth parents who were drugged immediately after giving birth and were then transported without their consent to another hospital or convalescent centre where they were completely separated from their child, who had remained at the hospital," the

report said. Some practices involved a deception of the birth mother; examples included concealing the words on the document of consent or misrepresenting the document and telling the birth mother, contrary to the fact, the child had died shortly.

"Another practice, which was employed in at least one major Sydney hospital, was to hold a pillow or sheet over the mother's body during the delivery so that the child could be removed without ever having been seen or held by the mother," the report added.

Justice Richard Chisholm, the author of the document, said he would be very surprised if it had happened only in New South Wales.

Given the climate of opinion in conservative Australia three or four decades ago, when

illegitimacy held consider able stigma and unmarmothers were often refamily disgrace, national adoption groups believe the scandal of the "still-born

adoptions" was so widespread that thousands of women may have been deceived. Linda Bryant, of Jigsaw, the Australian adoption organisation, said she knew of three cases where single mothers had been tricked into believing

their babies had died. One young girl who went back to the hospital to pick up her baby ten days after giving birth was told her baby had died," Ms Bryant recalled. "When her child tracked her down decades later, it was an

unbelievable shock." A spokesman for the Sydney-based Origins Adoption Centre likened it to "nothing short of kidnapping".

Facing pressure for a full investigation, the federal Government resisted calls for a national inquiry, insisting that it was a state responsibility.



Passengers receive medical help at Fukuoka airport in Japan yesterday after their aircraft crashed on take-off

Three die after jet crashes in Japan

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

THREE people were killed yesterday when an Indonesian Garuda Airways DC10 jet crashed on take-off at Fukuoka airport in southwest

The aircraft, carrying 260 passengers and 15 crew, lifted a few yards into the air and then crashed down again. bursting into flames as it skidded off the runway. A witness said he saw fire break out in the starboard engine a few seconds before the pilot aborted the take-off.

The aircraft, bound for Jakarta via Bali, came to a halt hundred yards from rows of houses

The remains of three men.



Smoke billows from the crippled Indonesian plane

and crew members, with

firefighters and police offi-

cers. were injured. Fourteen

were being kept in hospital

still to be identified, were recovered from the fuselage, which was destroyed by fire in the crash. Last night the police said some passengers still unaccounted for.

for treatment. Investigators found a gap-A total of 110 passengers ing hole in the engine located

on the tail of the aircraft. That led to speculation that the damage had been caused by a bird or other object being sucked into the engine.

The weather at the time was good and experts were puz-zled why the pilot decided to abort the flight seconds after take-off. "I can assume only that the accident was caused by mechanical trouble," Eichiro Sekigawa, an aviation expert, said.

It must be that two of the engines malfunctioned as the DČI0 is designed to be able to take off with just two en-

The DCIO is powered by three engines, one on each wing and the third on the rear fin. The Garuda airliner had been in service since 1989, airline officials said.

Ill health forces Nkomo to retire

FROM JAN RAATH

JOSHUA NKOMO. 79, a Vice-President of Zimbabwe and the unofficial leader of the country's minority Ndebele people, is to retire soon

because of ill health. He said in an interview published here yesterday that he would consult President Mugabe on the date of his departure. He is Vice-President of Zimbabwe and of the ruling Zanu (PF) party.

The announcement has been long expected, especially after last month when he underwent surgery in a private clinic in Cape Town. He told the independent weekly Financial Gazette that he did not understand his illness and there has been no official explanation, but senior gov-ernment sources say he had prostate cancer.

"I am still sick, but each day am getting better," he said. At one point, reports from Cape Town said he was in a coma and on the brink of death, but Mr Nkomo said: 'When I heard that I had died, I said they are crazy. Tell the people that Nkomo has survived." He said he would continue working for the time being, but at a slower pace.

The veteran politician, whose massive frame has loomed over the nation's politics for nearly three decades, celebrated his seventy-ninth birthday at his home in the western city of Bulawayo, but was unable to blow out his candles, the paper reported. On Wednesday, prayers were said for him at his home.

His retirement will mark the end of another career of Africa's old school of rulers. deeply traditional and conservative men with little time for what they regarded as the niceties of democracy or the rule of law. Always brandishing a tribal walking stick, Mr Nkomo was perceived as a latter-day Lobengula, last of the warrior-king chiefs of the Ndebele, and ran his party with much the same forceful command. He was not an Ndebele, however.

His leadership of national politics lasted only six years from 1957, when black nationalism began to make an impact on the white minorits Rhodesian Government.

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AN EXCLUSING -Take a fi open air e

Zyuganov defies prophets to claim victory

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

GENNADI ZYUGANOV, the Russian Communist Party leader and main challenger for the country's presidency, said confidently yesterday that victory in Sunday's polls already belonged to him.

and the street that the street

Vould

Speaking at his last press conference before polling day. the thick-set former teacher predicted the end of political and economic reform in Russia and suggested that President Yeltsin should have retired quietly to the country when he still had the chance.

"Mr Yeltsin claims that his rating has grown from 6 to 50 per cent. Only bamboo in the tropics grows at such a rate." Mr Zyuganov said in a flash of humour rare in a man known best for his solid but unimagi-

native leadership style.

We are confidently going to the polls, and I can say that we have won because the latest opinion polls say that twothirds of the country's citizens support the ideals of popular patriotism and social justice."

Despite his public display of confidence, many senior Communist figures have already concluded privately that they are in for a much closer contest against an opponent whose popularity is visibly rising every day.

President Yeltsin, who travelled to St Petersburg yesterday and who wraps up his campaign with a final visit to the Yekaterinburg area today, has outclassed his Communist opponent in just about every aspect of the race for the

presidency. Nevertheless, Mr Zyuganov, 51, a classic middleranking party apparatchik



who helped to rebuild the Communist Party after its near-collapse five years ago. has doggedly stond his ground and maintained a solid support base among voters across the country.

Yesterday he renewed his attack on the Kremlin administration, criticising President Yeltsin for destroying the Soviet Union, ruining Russian industry and the country's scientific base, failing to crack down on crime and corruption, and causing the bloody War in Chechenia

Although few Russians would argue with the criti-cisms, they have also failed to hear from Mr Zyuganov the pecific ways in which he plans to cure the country's ills and what sort of government he would establish in Moscow if he came to power.

One journalist estimated recently that, if Mr Zyuganov's promises of renewed govern-ment funding to industry, agriculture, education, health care and social services were added up, the final sum would come to between five and seven times the present national budget.

Although Mr Zyuganov caused a sensation earlier this year at the Davos economic conference when he assured Western bankers that he was at heart a social democrat who

favoured a mixed economy, his assurances failed to ease concerns in the business community.

Zyuganov has never offered any specifies of what exactly he plans to do if he comes to power," one Western banker in Moscow said. It is not clear that the Communists understand how modern economies function. By accident or design, they could set this country back years."

Part of Mr Zyuganov's inability to be more specific about his vision for a future Russia is that the Communist Party today is just one part of a 200 group alliance of leftwingers, nationalists and social democrats brought together by opposition to President Yellsin but representing a wide array of ideologies.

The coalition, known as the 'Red-Brown" alliance because of its Communist and nationalist roots, worked well for Mr Zyuganov in last December's parliamentary elections. He and his allies secured a third of the vote in the Duma, the lower house of parliament, and went on to dominate the legislature.

At the time, the Communists looked unstoppable, but they have failed to build on their victory and in particular to appeal to the one-third of undecided voters who will determine the presidential election. Viktor Linnik, the former

editor of Pravda, the official Communist newspaper, said that the failure of the Communists to build on their victory made them look "like children who come to the Christmas tree to find that their gifts have

He added: "Zyuganov's tactic in the campaign has been to



Zyuganov, in Moscow yesterday, addresses his last press conference before Russia goes to the polls

bank on the substantial anti-Yeltsin vote, which he exploited to the fullest. But he proved weak on the positive signs which finally limited his voter appeal."

For the Communist Party leader the result of the presidential election could well

decide his fate as well as that of his cherished party, which he has served loyally since his youth in the southern region of Orel.

It is widely expected that, if the Communists lose the election, the alliance they have so

crumble. The party itself, which is made up largely of elderly Soviet-era supporters. may never have another chance to regain power by the ballot box.

Next time round, at the turn of the century, the ranks of the

and the strongly anti-Communist youth will have won the demographic battle and may well have laid to rest once and for all the country's Communist legacy.

CAMPAIGN NOTEBOOK

WHAT many Russian pundits appear to have overlooked in the grand slam tennis tournament after presidential campaign is that the most important election in their country's history may be settled on

the playing fields of England. One of the Communists' regular complaints about the loss of national pride and rise of decadent Western living habits in modern Russia is the failure of the country to match the sporting achievements of the former Soviet Union. However, the charge sounded a little hollow this week, particularly after the sensational victory by Yevgeni Kafelnikov, who became the first Russian to win a

BY RICHARD BEESTON

his victory in the French Open. Attention is now focused on the

Russian squad in the Euro 96 championship. Although the side played well at Anfield this week, they lost 2-1 against Italy, and now face a tough match against Germany on Sunday, the same day as the

"If Chancellor Kohl really wants to help Yeltsin to get re-elected, he should order the Germans to score an own goal or two this Sunday," said one Russian football fan, in a bout of wishful thinking. "If we

cannot beat the Germans, people may decide it is time to get the Communists back in power. ☐ While Russia's presidential election campaign may officially come to a close today, nobody seriously expects the candidates to give up the

Decline of sport turns Euro 96 into a political football

Sunday morning.

Communist Party activists in the countryside are planning a blitz of remote farming regions in an effort to secure the rural vote, where entire communities are accustomed to voting as one. Not to be outdone, the pro-

opportunity of having the last word

in the voter's ear before polls open on

Yeltsin media, which has devoted the lion's share of coverage to the Kremlin leader over the past few months of campaigning, is planning a more subtle but no less effective

Russia's state-owned television is screening Burnt by the Sun, the Oscar-winning film by Nikita Mikhalkov, the country's most famous actor-director, who is also a staunch Yeltsin supporter.

The underlying message could be damaging to the Communists' election hopes. The story recounts the last day of a famous Soviet general, who is shot by Stalin's secret police. □ Vladimir Bryntsalov, the egomaniac billionaire businessman and presidential hopeful, may not have a chance of winning the elections but he has left a big impression on the campaign.

After boasting about his wealth, sexual prowess and showing off his young "trophy wife", the Russian entrepreneur is now determined to prove to the country that he has what takes to rule.

This week he was spotted at the Duma, the Russian parliament, handing out copies of a doctor's certificate which he claimed proved medically that he was "physically and mentally fit" to run the country. The move may have placated some doubters but is unlikely to dispel the lingering misgivings of many.

Historic vote for president spans 11 time zones

FACTFILE

ON Sunday, 107 million Russians across II time zones will be eligible to vote for the first time in the country's history for a president serving a four-

Voting: some Russians liv-ing in remote regions of the Arctic Circle or serving in Russian naval vessels have voted already. Others can vote between Sam and 10pm at one of the 93.000 polling stations. ☐ Results: each polling station passes its results to its territorial election commission, which then passes on regional totals to the Central Election Commission in Moscow. The CEC must complete its count within 15 days. Results must then be announced within three days of a total being reached.

☐ Observers: they will be designated by candidates, as well as by Russian and international organisations. More than 1,100 foreign observers are expected. The Communist Party is expected to mobilise a further 93,000. They can witness every stage of voting, accompany mobile ballot boxes, look at voter lists and appeal against the actions of election commissions.

□ Winning: to win in the first round, a candidate must get 50 per cent plus one of the votes cast. Failing that, a second round will follow between the two most popular

□ Transition of power: a new Bill on the transition of power to a president-elect stipulates that the incumbent president must stand down 30 days after the CEC has announced the election results.

☐ The candidates: Yeltsin, 65, President; Gennadi Zyuganov, 51, Communist; Grigori Yavlinsky, 44. Yabloko; Vladimir Vladimir Zhirinovsky, 51. Liberal Democratic Party: Mikhail Gorbachev. 65. former leader: Svyatoslav Fyodorov, 68. surgeon. Aleksandr Lebed. 46. former general; Vladimir Bryntsalov, 49, businessman. Martin Shakkum, 45, Russian Popular Socialist Party; and Yuri Vlasov, 60, former Olympic weight lifter.

Mayor murdered 'to disrupt polling'

Moscow: Rival candidates in centre of Russia's aerospace research, was found in the Russia's presidential elections renewed their allegations of a campaign of political violence yesterday, after the Mayor of a town near Moscow was shot dead outside his home (Rich-

ard Beeston writes).
Police said that Viktor Mosalov, the Mayor of Zhukovsky, a town that is the stairwell of his apartment. He had been shot several times in

the head. The murder came after the explosion in a carriage of the Moscow metro on Tuesday that left four people dead, and the attempted assassination of

the capital's Deputy Mayor.

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Norfolk, Weston Park, Shropshire and Perworth Park,

who was seriously injured last week by a bomb blast. President Yeltsin said the

latest attack was the work of people who wanted to undermine the electoral process. "The idea of the new terrorist act against a representative of the authorities is evident: to intimidate people, to sow fear. to undermine belief in public

President

cleared

FROM DAVID ADAMS

A LATE-NIGHT vote in Co-

lombia's Congress cleared President Samper of drug cor-ruption charges, but the cour-

try's political crisis may be far

US officials have insisted

for months that the President is guilty of using cocaine cash

to finance his 1994 election.

Earlier this year Washington

declared it no longer considered Colombia an ally in the drugs war. Now economic

The lower house of Con-

gress, dominated by the Presi-

dent's Liberal Party.

dismissed the charges by an overwhelming vote of 111-43. The margin of victory was no

surprise to President

Samper's critics, who allege

that the congressional investi-

gation was manipulated by

political cronies of his who

are deeply involved in drug

In theory the vote ends an

impeachment process and

clears the way for Senor Samper to complete his presi-

dential term, which ends in

1998. However, opponents have vowed to continue

efforts to unseat him, arguing

that his political trial was

heavily weighted in his fa-

vour. Some are already de-

manding that Congress

declare its investigation null

and void and reopen the case

Hours before the vote.

police freed Juan Carlos

Gaviria, the kidnapped brother of a former President. His

captors, believed to be linked

to drug traders and left-wing

guerrillas, had threatened to kill him if Congress cleared

against the President.

corruption.

sanctions may follow.

said in a message of condolence to the victim's family. The suggestion that mem-

bers of the opposition may have been involved in the incident was dismissed by Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader. He said the death was the direct result of the anarchy ruling Russia.

Colombian NEWS IN BRIEF Bangladesh faces hung parliament

Dhaka: Bangladesh's centrist Awami League strengthened its lead yesterday in the country's second general election in four months, but faced the prospect of a hung parliament. Overall results will be delayed by 116 recounts, ordered because some voting was

disrupted. After an election on Wednesday praised by foreign observers despite sporadic violence. the Awami League. led by Sheikha Hasina Wajed, appeared likely to win power for the first time in 21 years. But it will need the support of minor-ity parties. (Reuter)

Nigeria talks

London: After six months of refusal. Nigeria has agreed to receive an eight-member Commonwealth task force to discuss a return to democracy. The talks will be held at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London on June 24 and 25.

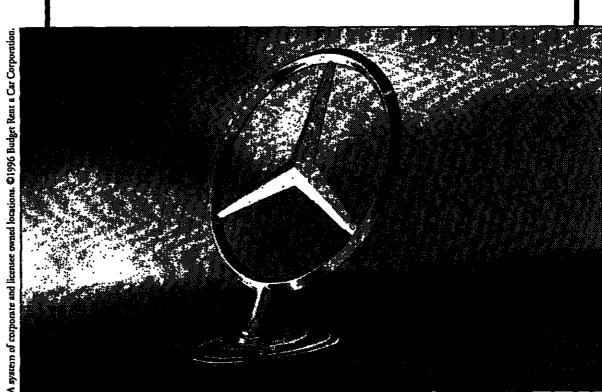
Bahrain mission

London: Jeremy Hanley, Foreign Office Minister, will visit Bahrain on Sunday for two days of talks with the ruling al-Khalifa family. Riots by Shia Muslims and claims of an Iranian plot to oust the regime will be discussed.

Roads to ruin

Atlanta: Police in Georgia have arrested 700 "violent feions", clearing them off the streets in advance of the Olympic Games to be held here next month. "We went after the worst of the worst," said a police spokesman.

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orge Luis Borges died in Geneva on this day ten years ago. The Argentine short-story writer was the most revered Latin American

writer of his time.
Without Borges, there would be no Garcia Marquez. Italo Calvino, or Julian Barnes. Today, his name is probably better known than his work, which in English enjoyed modish attention in the 1960s and 1970s. Then it dropped from view.

Three years ago. I was asked to review a new book on Borges. The commission came with worries about Borges's reactionary politics. I concentrated on his wit and imagination. The review did not appear.

This, perhaps, gives an idea of the depths to which Borges's reputation had sunk in some quarters. He had pledged his allegiance to "conservatism" in the 1960s. He had condoned Argentine Fascist generals in the 1970s. Only in the 1980s did he attempt more measured public

Readers of The Times will remember a wry Borges poem that the paper published three months after the end of the Falklands conflict, Juan López and John Ward. A statement from the writer read: "It seems to me an excellent opportunity to say in England that not all of us

Borges was indeed far from demented. He had one of the great literary intelligences of the century, equal with W.H. Auden's in its range and complexity. He wrote the finest Spanish prose since Cervantes. In his famous stories, first made available here in a volume called Labyrinths, he revolutionised the art of fiction. In this light, his "politics" seem a trifling matter.

Borges was born in Buenos Aires in 1899 of middle-class parents and of mixed ancestry: Spanish, Portuguese, possibly Jewish and, most important of all for "Georgie" (as Borges was known to family and close friends), with an English grandmother. English was spoken at home along with Spanish. English literature was pivotal throughout his life.

The Borgeses moved to Switseeking a cure — in vain. His son cise. He also created diverse inherited the condition which worlds, which were personal, Borges, misleadingly, with the

On the tenth anniversary of the death of the writer Jorge Luis Borges, his life and legacy are examined by James Woodall

cosmopolitan, and open to so

In doing this, Borges suggest-

ed something many Post-Mod-

ernist writers have since tried but

invariably failed to echo: that the

so-called "realities" fiction has

traditionally described are fraud-

ulent. The only thing left for a

writer to do is to celebrate his

pretence, and revel in the tricks

talismanic coins, daggers, liter-ary criticism, fake scholars - at

his disposal.

'In his

view,

to fact'

- in Borges's case, labyrinths,

Yet underlying this apparently

paradox central to Borges's world view:

fiction is, in the end, preferable to fact.

his revolutionary

work was done. He

became a public fig-

ure, at home as direc-

tor of the National

Library in Buenos

Aires, and, in the

1960s, when transla-

tions of his stories

had brought him

global renown, as a

lecturer. He continued to write, verse mainly, and some stories.

Above all, he became "Bor-

ges", talkative, professional, genial, who adored the world

looking in on him (largely

because he couldn't see it), yet

revealing little of the sweet-

natured, emotionally clumsy

"First and foremost," he said in

1972, "I think of myself as a

reader, then as a poet, then as a

prose writer." Borges never

courted fame as a writer, but by

the early 1970s he had attained

guru status — the founder, it was

thought, of an exciting new

school of Latin American fiction

Garcia Marquez began writing

Borges cared nothing for this.

called Magic Realism.

man he remained.

By the early 1950s,

nihilistic position is the playful

eventually made him the most famous blind writer of the 20th century after James Joyce.

First World War, Borges was educated in Geneva, where he discovered Walt Whitman, Schopenhauer and Expressionism. The family returned to Buenos Aires in 1921. There, Borges published three volumes of poetry before he was 30. He turned exclusively to prose -- essays and criticism - in the 1930s, returning to poetry only in the late 1950s, after he'd gone blind. After a grave illness in 1938, he was inspired to try fiction,

something he'd al-The result was a strange fable called Pierre Menard, Aufiction is, thor of the Quixote, published in 1939. in the end,

The story was a hybrid of critical essay preferable and detective story, in attempts to "rewrite" Cervantes by repro-

ducing the text of Don Quirote. It was the first of 33 extraordinary tales on which Borges's reputation now lies. Through two volumes published in Buenos Aires, Ficciones (1944) and El Aleph (1949), Bor-

ges explored the outer reaches of fictional reality. He built improbable worlds and created metaphysical mayhem with punitive he Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa first read Borges in the 1950s:

"Borges is clearly the most important writer in Spanish of the century. He changed the orientation of the language. which is exuberant, emotive, sentimental. Borges pulled Spanish out of this tradition, and zerland in 1914. Borges's father turned it into a language that had terrible eyesight and was was intelligent, unadorned, pre-

simply, a prose innovator who happened to be Argentine.

Borges was also a private man. He lived with his mother in a modest flat in Buenos Aires for most of his life. He fell celibately in love many times, and even got married, briefly -- aged 68 -- to a woman he'd courted 40 years before. "His relations with women, sex," observes Vargas Llosa, "these things created an enormous emptiness in Borges yet without which he wouldn't have been the genius he was."

ntil his death. Borges travelled, gave hun-dreds of interviews. and made ill-considered comments about world affairs. His acceptance of an award from Chile's General Pinochet in 1976 was probably the nail in the Nobel Prize coffin. That he never won it is seen today as one of the committee's greatest blunders.

Politically, Borges was consis-tent in just one area: his passionate hatred of Juan Peron, the dictator who ruled Argentina from 1946 to 1955 (and again briefly in 1973). In most other matters of public sensitivity. Borges was often naive or frivolous.

Yet to despise Borges for his politics shows little understanding of a man for whom the only truth was a lie, and who perceived the world as a phantasmagoria: by turns an illusory joke and a labyrinthine hell.

His final years were lightened by the companionship of a woman some 40 years his junior, named Maria Kodama. He married her weeks before his death from cancer in June 1986. Kodama is the inheritor of his

estate. Only last autumn Borges's Spanish copyrights became stabilised with a one million dollar deal done on Kodama's behalf. The future of Borges's work in English is more doubtful. What is certain is that books about the man will abound. The greatest challenge for them all will be to address his magisterial radicalism head-on, and to accept his capricious politics for what they were capricious. As he told The Times in 1980: "I have no posts, I am a free man.

ges, The Man in the Mirror of the Book, will be published by Hodder on writers ever since has saddled



Born in Buenos Aires, Borges had an English grandmother. English was spoken at home along with Spanish

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SIGN OF THE TIMES by Kathryn Knight

number?" but "Good morning, Cynthia speaking, which number do you require?" "It's proved very popular."

a BT spokesman says. "The operators said they felt it established a rapport with customers and people do like that personal touch." This is simply not true. People don't care if a rottwei-ler answers the telephone as

long as they get their number. preferably inside ten seconds.
This friendly approach is part of the pernicious "Have a nice day" insincerity from across the water and the Nineties need to convince

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ourselves that despite the fact we're all trying to make money we really are nice and kind to each other. But the resulting word marathon is not just robotic but can be nosy and intrusive.

Most firms now refuse to put you through to their staff until after an exhausting series of questions and accom-

Starting in October we shall be

who's calling?" Brenda/-Graham/Colin asks, before a monotone of bleeps and clicks. Then it's "Just putting you through." Just putting you through would be fine,

A receptionist for a firm of City lawyers explained that she asked for a name so that partners, who could then greet clients in a friendly, personalised manner. "Hello, Mr Jamieson, J was just looking through your interesting file. Thank you for calling."

But what happens if the receptionist comes back and says "I'm sorry. Gloria Blenkinsop is away from her

desk at present"? Are they just not there for you? They could be monitoring their calls. friendly at all, it's sinister.

Where will it all end? Soon, Cynthia will be giving her star sign, favoured breakfast cereal and views on the American presidency, and we will be giving our favourite colour and a description of the person we want to speak to.

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The one-time star of the gossip columns is back in London, still worried about his laundry

My wife said 'from tomorrow morning I am Lady Previn and don't you forget'

town, knighted in this year's Honours List. He was delighted when a jazz-playing friend wrote to say: "I now know two Knights - you and Gladys." We had an early breakfast at the Savoy before he went off to record Desert Island Discs

- another accolade. It was "fiendish" to choose, he said. "I wish people wouldn't regard music and musicians as they do the rankings at Wimbledon: Mozart one, Agassi

)Ved

Mozart is his number one, however. The other night he was cheered to the Barbican's rafters - conducting the LSO and the brilliant young soloist Gil Shaham on his Stradivarius — after the Mozart Third Violin Concerto.

Previn at 67 has metamorphosed into a tiny, slightly stooping, bespectacled figure, custom-built for the podium. There is no vestige of the gossip-column glamour that

surrounded him in the days

when he wore a long fringe

flares. During our breakfast a woman from another table came up and said: "You look like someone I know. Are you Mr Sandbank?" (He enjoyed this name; he tells of an MGM doorman named Kenneth Hollywood, and Lassie's trainer who was "actually called Weatherwax".)

Previn heard about his honorary knighthood (for furthe artistic interchange between Britain and the United States") at home in rural New York State. At first he assumed the call from Sir John Kerr, our man in Washington, was one of his joker friends. "Then I asked if it would be all right to tell people - and realised there was nobody home, so I told Barley, my labrador, who was very unimpressed."

The presentation of the KBE and its "Ruritanian-style starburst medallion took place at the embassy. Sir John had unearthed from the BBC the tape of an old Morecambe and Wise Show with Previn



The maestro's back in town: "You get that nightly renewal, through music," says Previn. "It's all worth it, because it's simply the best profession in the world"

playing steoge: "So 150 people in black tie and medals and sashes just fell about. It was sweet thing to do, because my children saw it for the first His wife since 1982 - his

fourth - is the former Heather Sneddon, an elegant Englishwoman whose natural habitat is a Surrey garden with a basket over one arm. She and their 12-year-old son Lukas ("who is an accomplished guitarist and unofficial mascot of five orchestras including the LSO") were just off to visit her parents in Woking. "Because of her background — her father was in the Foreign Office — my wife does enjoy the idea of being Lady Previn. I know you are so laid back that no awards have any effect on you, she said, but starting tomorrow morning I am Lady Previn and don't you

So completely has Previn excised his old self from the record that he makes no mention in Who's Who of

There was nobody home, so I told Barley, my labrador, about the knighthood.

He was very unimpressed'

former wives: neither Dory Previn, who still sings her soulful songs of love and loss. nor Mia Farrow, although he does acknowledge their six children, including twin sons of 26. He told me he would not be answering any personal questions, even from Sue

Lawley.
But there is plenty of material here for Tony Palmer, who is making Previn the subject of another enthralling film biography for the South Bank Show, centring on the opera Previn has written for the San Francisco Opera Company, opening in October 1998. It is an operatic version of Tennes-Williams's A Streetcar Named Desire - "I always said it was an opera but the

music was missing." Previn has become the consummate conductor-composer - Conductor Laureate of the LSO, which he ran for II years - with a deep affinity with Vaughan Williams and a mission to interpret new work by English composers.

"În America, I am an American conductor. Here, I take it thinking, It's not one of my favourite orchestras'." He tells a spooky tale of

English conductor. And in Germany, there is a new coffee-table book of famous German conductors, and I'm He was born in Berlin. His family sailed for America in

1938 and fetched up in Holly-wood because his lawyer father yearned for the sunshine seen in a Loretta Young Young Andre learnt English from films (a good thing, he says, that this was before the

granted that I am an

THE

VALERIE

GROVE

INTERVIEW

era of Tarantinoj and at 16 he was already composing film music for MGM. His charming and funny memoir of his Hollywood years, No Minor Chords, was so well written his friend Philip Roth wrote him a note saying: "One more of these, and I conduct." Hollywood in the 1940s was

teeming with great musical figures from Europe: he played ping-pong with hoenberg, and gave a recital Stravinsky's Piano Serenade, while Stravinsky and Aldous Huxley sat in the front row. Gene Kelly and Fred Astaire both tried, but failed, to teach him even the simplest dance step. "My God," said Astaire, "I had to teach this step to a hear in a circus once, and he caught on pretty

n 1989, a Disney mogul tried to woo him back to Hollywood. Jeffrey Katzenberg invited Previn to his home, which made Versailles look like a toolshed, and asked him to remake Fantasia. But there was a catch. "Frankly," said Katzenberg, "I gotta tell you there's not a single piece of classical music that knocks my socks off."

Would Previn do Fantasia with Beatles music instead? "He was wonderfully nice and polite," Previn says. "And once I had turned him down, he just said OK, we'll find someone else'. And I thought, nothing has ever really changed there. Like all world-class musi-

for years: he will come back to the LSO and the Vienna Phil every year (the Musikverein in Vienna is for him the most thrilling concert hall in the world) and always fits in favourite orchestras like the New York Phil and the Boston Symphony. "It telescopes your life. But it can get out of hand: my wife said to me the other day 'we haven't been to Paris in years', and I said without

touring Germany last year. In the medieval city of Lübeck, during a walk with Gil Shaham, he saw some books with old German lettering in an antiquarian bookseller's

No one forces us into it. You honestly don't do it for the money. It's just what we do. We get our reward in music'

window. I said. My father once had a library full of books like this'. Later, Gil said why don't you go back and buy one? First we couldn't find the shop, and were just about to give up, when I saw it again, went in, and bought two Thomas Manns: The Magic Mountain and Buddenbr-

ooks. That evening, in my Hamburg hotel, I undid the little parcel - and one of those books was my father's. He had signed his name in it. That's Twilight Zone, isn't it? A world war had interno one forces us into it. You vened. My father was never in

Lübeck. I wasn't meant to be in Lübeck. And where have his books been for 50-odd years? I told the story to my son Fletcher, a smart and entertaining young man of 22 who was doing his German degree near Hamburg, and he said, 'Listen, pop, I don't elect to believe this'. Elect to believe! I said, 'Don't get fancy with

Previn gets by on five hours' sleep a night. His schedule week included auditioning singers at Covent Garden, rehearsing concerts, a day's recording, performing at the Barbican with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa last night, and a chamber concert next Tuesday. Musicians in Britain, he says, are woefully underpaid. *Consider this: there are perhaps 15 world-class orchestras, each comprising 100 musicians. That's only 1,500 people who make the world's great music - they deserve some-

"I gave the commencement address at the Curtis Institute, in Philadelphia, the best music school in the world. I tried to tell them the facts of life for a professional musician, which are basically not about glamour, but figuring out how to get your laundry done.
-We've just come back from

a tour; eight cities in eight days, suitcases, and airports.

and being gone from the people you love. Around this time I always swear that I'm never going to have a schedule like this again. "But I have to say this. First,

honestly don't do it for the money. And you don't do it because it will be good for your career, because you've got there already. "What is left? It's just what

we do. This will sound like Pollyanna, but we get our reward every night, in the fleeting two hours of music.

"Often, on a tour, you get off a bus and arrive in a dreadful

and the audience is straight from hell, and you go out onto the stage thinking let's just play and get outa here', but after about one minute you know you can't do that. because the only person you might possibly be punishing is the composer — and he's dead. So often the most adverse conditions provoke the most

hall, with terrible acoustics,

exciting performances. "You get that nightly renew al, through music, which is inevitably better than you are. It's all worth it, because it's simply the best profession in

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From Don Giovanni to Don Carlos, operas are set in Spain, but not in Spanish

a in Ispagna son già mille e tre! "But in Spain he's already had a , thousand and three. Even billionaire barbarians who would pay a grand not to be forced to sleep through grand opera. as well as buffs who have known Madam Butterfly since she was a chrysalis, can sing along with Leporello's catalogue of Don Giovanni's conquests. But they never stop to consider the curious affair of the opera in Spain. Now is the time to do so. Especially in this week when Don Carlos opened the Verdi festival at Covent Garden and there was a melodrama over the reopening of the Madrid Opera House. In a mission statement of managerial ineptitude that makes even Covent Garden look almost efficient, the Madrid house has been closed for ten years for refurbishment.

The opera in Spain stays mainly inane. There are great Spanish opera singers and old opera houses in the Iberian world, one even halfway up the Amazon at Manaus. But the Spanish singers, like Leporello. sing in Italian, or German, or French or even in English. Of the 20 premier-division operas, half are set in Spain, and half of those in Seville. The prisoners in Fidelio emerge from darkness into the white sunlight in Seville. Carmen goes down from the sunlight into the dark outside the bullring in Seville. In Spain, Figaro intrigues, Don Pasquale does the decent thing for young lovers. Il Trovatore serenades, there is more to Ernani than meets the eye, and Count Almaviva sexually harasses Susanna. There is a Wagnerian Spanish opera. Parsifal's Grail Mountain is in south-eastern Spain. contrary to the geography of the German Minnesingers. Even in the larks around the Turkish seraglio, Constanze and Belmonte are Spanish lovers. But they make love in German or Italian, not Spanish.

The curious affair of the opera in Spain is that it is all foreigners soaring and booming about foreign notions of Spain. The opera bibles list about 30 Spanish opera composers, including some like Falla of whom even non-operamanes have heard. But Isaac Albéniz's Merlin, part of a projected Arthurian trilogy, remains unperformed.

So why no great Spanish opera, in the camp art imitating ancient Greek singingand-dancing with chorus and story? And named from the Latin "the works", cognate linguistically with hors d'oeuvre, operation and average? There are some runners as explanations. You could say that there were no great Spanish composers between the Renaissance and the 20th century. You might suggest that the guitar destroyed Spanish music. Zarzuela, the bizarre Spanish comic operetta, diverted talents that might otherwise have composed and written opera. Spain, having been briefly the world's superpower, was an exotic land of extremes, so European composers looked to Spain for olitically dangerous themes, just as Shakespeare set his contemporary leaders in Rome or the Wars of the Roses. If Figaro was singing a man's a man for a'that, it was more safely set in Seville than Paris.

f you stop to think about it, opera is the oddest of arts. It is, of course, about emotion as much as thinking. I take my opera (muddily) mostly from scratched vinyl of a certain age. But in its odd way it is high art. What we need is a guide, because, even with the best intentions always, I am never actually going to read the libretto and the music before I listen. Peter Gellhorn is such a guide. For years he was conductor at Glyndebourne and Covent Garden. He now plays the piano, sings all parts from Queen of the Night to Osmin, thumps on the piano with his script, and guides us through an opera, even Götterdämmerung, in three hours.

Gellhorn has taken us groupies through the Ring, and will wind up his Verdi season with Falstaff at Burgh House, Hampstead, on July 4. He explains the humour as well as the leitmotifs in Wagner. Until I met Gellhorn, I found the music wonderful but the plots silly in Wagner. If one could afford it, what one should do is have a training session with Peter Gellhorn before going to the opera. He is the man to answer the conundrum of Spanish opera.



Is there life outside?

ithdrawal. It sounds so final. The word — with its echoes of retreat, connotations of failure and shades of Dunkirk - has made debate difficult. Until recently no respectable politician was inclined to attempt a dispassionate assessment of how Britain benefits from its membership of the EU and what its prospects might be outside. Questioning membership was as eccentric as advocating votes for women in the 1870s or opposing incomes policies in the 1970s. Last Tuesday Tony Blair accused the 74 Conservative MPs who voted for William Cash's Referendum Bill of secretly favouring withdrawal from the EU, as though it were somewhow shameful -attachment to an independent nation state now being the love that dare not speak its name.

One does not need to favour withdrawal to find this exaggerated. The pursuit by Britain's European partners of deeper integration has placed strains on this country's political, economic and legal systems. That strain may be, to paraphrase Norman Lamont in another context, a price worth paying, but it would be practising a deceit on the British public not to examine the costs and benefits of membership scrupulously and to consider if there is a worthwhile alternative.

It is Mr Lamont who has been most prominent in questioning what benefits Britain derives from membership. At the Conservative Party conference in 1994, he drove the debate on European integration, animated by the painful parliamentary process of ratifying the Maastricht treaty, into new territory. He observed that he could see no "single concrete economic advantage that unambiguously derived from membership of the EU". He floated the possibility of leaving, at a time when all but the refuseniks who had opposed entry in the 1970s still talked of reforming

Mr Lamont would prefer to see the EU abandon deeper integration and evolve into a community of nation states. but he fears that while Britain waits for 40 years of European integration to go into reverse, the costs of membership continue to rise. Britain contributes £7.7 billion gross and £3.5 billion net to the EU budget. Much of the money spent here by the EU is devoted to schemes which this Government would itself never fund. The common agricultural policy adds £6 billion to the nation's food British withdrawal from the EU need not be suicidal, says Michael Gove

The European

institutions that

rule against us

are referees

wearing the other

team's colours

bill, although half of that goes in support to British farmers, which any government might wish to maintain. Patrick Minford, Professor of Economics at Liverpool University, calculates that contributions and agricultural costs from which Britain does not gain add up to around £10 billion. That is 1.5 per cent of our national income, or just under half the Government's forecast deficit. Ironically, if the Government had that money back it would be in a stronger position to qualify for entry into a single currency.

Advocates of exit argue that the

damage is more than fiscal. The

authority of Parliament is weakened, separatist forces in Scotland and Wales are indulged, and the law is corrupted by the European Court of

Ministers contest the bleakness of the pessimists' assessment, but recognise that while the momentum for integration is maintained, Britain must protect itself from the unhappier conse-

quences. Britain will veto the wilder federalist excesses and opt out of what it cannot prevent. Cynics interpret this policy, known as "variable geometry", as giving Brussels an inch and then watching as it takes several kilometres.

the problem for the sceptics is that the EU's structures seem designed specifically to propel nations towards a single goal.

The Commission, Court and Parliament detest derogations and try to outflank opt-outs. The social chapter opt-out has been a legislative Maginot Line, unable to prevent directives infiltrating British law. Any further flurry of opt-outs at future conferences would be policed by institutions such as the Commission and Court, which exist to advance integration. They are referees wearing the opposing team's colours.

Leaving the EU might be a wrench. but it need not be a retreat into isolation and North Korean autarky. Its advocates believe it could be a liberation. Far

from a withdrawal, it might be entry to a wider world. Four possibilities have been considered by sceptical Tories.
They are, broadly, "the Norwegian".
"the Swiss", "the American" and "the untried". The Norwegian path — membership of the European Economic Area but not of the EU — has also been taken by Liechtenstein and Iceland. The charm of the EEA has been tarnished by the decision of Sweden, Finland and Austria to leave it for the EU; but with majorities in Sweden and Austria now, apparently, regretting the decision, and

Norway flourishing, it should not be

dismissed. Membership provides access to the single market. with freedom of movement for goods, services, capital and people without involvement in the common fisheries or agricultural policies or any need to subscribe to shared fiscal, monetary, social, foreign or security policies. It does, however, mean

paying into cohesion funds and accepting single-market regulations without having the chance to shape them. It is, in the view of many sceptics, a poorer deal than Britain might secure.

The Swiss option is a simple bilateral free-trade arrangement with the EU. Switzerland is free to apply EU regulations as it wishes. In some sectors, notably banking, it benefits from not doing so. Trade with the EU has not suffered. Of Switzerland's exports, 63 per cent go to the EU, as against only 47 per cent of Britain's. Although Swiss goods can freely enter Europe, Swiss citizens do not enjoy the freedom to work in the EU, which Britons have. Any British government would wish to preserve that.

The American arrangement is to have no formal link with the EU at all, merely access to markets guaranteed by international agreements. Although outside the single market, the US and South Korea have, since 1990, increased their exports to the EU faster than Britain has. The Uruguay Round of negotations by the World Trade Organisation low-

ered the EU's external tariff from 5.7 per cent to 3.6 per cent, making market penetration far easier. Although a tariff is still a tariff, it could be less of a burden for business than high social costs exported from Germany and regulations imposed by Brussels. As for the prospect of a protectionist Europe wreaking revenge on a departing Brit-ain, that has receded since the World Trade Organisation was given new powers to make retaliatory action against any recalcitrant bloc easier.

There is ultimately no reason, according to free thinkers, why an independent Britain should follow any established path. Britain is in a unique position. It has leverage. It has a trade deficit with the EU and our partners would fight hard to preserve their access to the British market. Moreover, as the beef war has so vividly illustrated, Britain still has a veto on future development of the EU. Abandoning the veto would allow other nations to integrate without hindrance. In return for the freedom to go their own way, they might concede full freedom of movement in a federal Europe to British goods and citizens.

erely contemplating a life outside causes palms to go sweaty in King Charles Street. For diplomats used to trading sovereignty for influence in the Brussels bourse, the thought that sovereignty might be retrieved, and independence asserted, is deeply uncongenial. But flirting with a future outside could actually increase our influence.

France wants Britain to share Europe's defence burden and counterbalance Germany. Italy wants an ally to balance the Franco-German axis. The northern EU states value Britain's cash. and its influence in pressing for liberal economics. All of these states might be more inclined to accept British arguments if they thought Britain were prepared, if perpetually frustrated, to leave them to each other.

It is still in Britain's interest to stay in the EU, to prevent, if possible, a profound upset in the balance of power in Europe and to make co-operation easier on matters of mutual interest. Of course, contemplating withdrawal, like relaxing divorce laws, may make separation more likely, but the knowledge that a relationship could, reluctantly, be dissolved may be one of the best ways of ensuring that it remains equitable.

Why Bibi may need Labour Israel will reject

theocracy, Lawrence Freedman says

T ext week the Israeli Parliament will reconvene with a new Prime Minister, Benjamin Bibi" Netanyahu, and Arab leaders will meet to pronounce on the implications for peace of this election. A verdict remains difficult until the details of Netanyahu's coalition Government are announced. The presumption is still that it will be composed of individuals unwilling to offer many compromises for the sake of peace. Some in his own Likud Party, including the last Likud Prime Minister, Yitzhak Shamir, have called for the Colo accords with the Police for the Oslo accords with the Palestinians to be torn up. This attitude presumes Arab enmity, and that peace accords are only devices to persuade Israel to lower its guard. It looks forward to more settlements on the Golan Heights and the West Bank. securing the Israeli claim. The hawks will feel betrayed if, after their election

victory. Netanyahu simply follows the path marked out by Shimon Peres. Yet if he diverges from that path, Netanyahu's claim to be interested in peace will become progressively less convincing, and it will not be only the Arabs who will be upset. President Clinton has associated himself directly with the Israeli-Palestinian accords, including the pending agreement to remove Israeli troops from Hebron. His chal-lenger, Bob Dole, has been in the past notably hostile to the amount of finan-

cial aid America still provides to Israel. Moreover Netanyahu's first decisions will be taken against a background of a painful Hezbollah campaign against Israeli troops in the so-called "security zone" in southern Lebanon. In the face of these provocations, he might decide to take tough action, going beyond the airstrikes and artillery bombardments relied upon by Peres in his ill-fated Grapes of Wrath operation last April. This could mean a full-scale land invasion - which would probably be no more successful in crushing Hezbollah. Meanwhile, growing tension on the West Bank will make it difficult to abide by the agreement made by Peres to move Israeli troops out of Hebron.

He must also decide how, if at all, to open up the borders with the occupied territories. These are currently closed, denying Palestinians the opportunity to work in Israel in order also to deny them the opportunity to plant bombs. Getting this changed is one of the most pressing concerns of the Palestinian leader Yassir Arafat — for which he might even be prepared to offer some renegotiation over Hebron.

f the closure continues, it will undermine the logic of an activist settlement policy, for it will confirm the passing of the dream of a Greater Israel. It will be hard to justify spending scarce resources inserting insecure pockets of pioneers into a land which is now beyond colonisation. Even if the border controls are eased, regular military crackdowns might combine with minimum political progress to feed a resurgence of Palestinian militancy.

This is the greatest threat to Netanyahu's new Government. He came to power by playing on Israeli fears of terrorism, so he will be exceptionally vulnerable to further outrages. A campaign of car bombs in Israeli streets would mock the claim that the difference between Likud and Labour is that one has an answer to terrorism and the other has not. In reality. Netanyahu's answers to terrorism are unlikely to be much better than those of Peres, and they may be worse. The reality of Israel's security predicament is that it depends on Arab leaders restraining their extremists, and Netanyahu will find that if they are to do this he needs to offer them something in

e may try to mimic President Assad of Syria, by following a strategy of procrastination, talking without conceding, in the hope that the other side's patience breaks first. But this strategy has hardly worked for Assad, who has let his best negotiating opportunity slip from his grasp, and is now anxiously trying to persuade those Arab leaders who have already made peace with Israel to back his demands. Paradoxically, the best way for Israel to isolate Syria would be to withdraw from southern Lebanon, where the exposure of Israeli troops to ambush is providing Assad with his principal means of keeping up the pressure.

The extent to which Netanyahu can engage in any imaginative diplomacy depends on how much he is held back by his coalition. His problems here are not only satisfying the ample eges of his colleagues, and their conflicting attitudes towards dealing with Arabs, but also the excessive demands of the religious parties, which alarm most Israelis with their efforts to turn the country into a theocracy, and their desire for subsidies for their constituents. It is these demands that are at present holding up the formation of the coalition.

Netanyahu's most deft move would be to form a grand coalition with Labour. This could be presented as an attempt to close the divisions in the country that the election revealed, to ensure that domestic policy is not driven by special interests and that international policy reflects the contending desires of Israelis for peace and security. Few would bet on this, yet the option is being actively discussed in Jerusalem. Even if his first coalition is drawn from the Right, the conflicting pressures upon him may become irreconcilable, so it would not be surprising to see Netanyahu eventually falling back on this option.

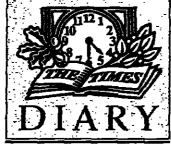
School run

LABOUR'S policy on education is riddled with U-turns, fudges and Harriet Harman's difficulties. Now, after decades of blanket opposition to private education, there are signs that the party is coming round to the idea. In a first for Labour, one of Tony Blair's team is to open an independent school this weekend.

Glenda Jackson has agreed to be guest of honour at the opening ceremony for Southbank International School in her Hampstead constituency. The coeducational establishment caters for pupils aged 3 to 13 and charges up to £9,000 a year. Older children can go to the sister school in Kensington which is billed in The Independent Schools Yearbook as taking pupils principally from Britain, the US and Scandinavia. This is the end of our first year

in Hampstead, but Glenda Jackson will officially declare it open," says the headmaster. Milton Toubkin. "We asked her because she is the local MP and is particularly well known. The combination made her the natural choice."

The Independent Schools Information Service "cannot remember" another case of a Labour MP opening one of the schools it



serves. But David Blunkett had his hand smacked with Tony Blair's ruler when he suggested that Labour would abolish the charitable status of independent schools. The policy is being re-viewed, and Glenda is unabashed by her foray. "I do try to visit the independent schools in my constituency." she explains.

Canary waif

VIBRANT among those who packed London's Reform Club on Wednesday evening for the Times Diary party was Teresa Corman, Euro-sceptic, glamorous granny and fashion-plate.

She sported a dazzling canary

yellow number, embroidered with bright flowers, which put Ivana Trump's sequinned trousers in the shade and caught the eye of the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, and Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber. So impressed was one guest that he turned to dress-designer Amanda Wakeley (customer: Princess of Wales) to congratulate her on what must have been one of her outfits. Amanda remarked politely that the Gorman two-piece wasn't quite her style.

 A press release concerning nuclear proliferation arrives from the People's Republic of China. "China conducted a unclear test on 8 June 1996," it says - and goes



Teresa: glamorous guest

on to refer to "unclear weapons" throughout the bulletin. Scram-bled code?

Red menace

AS PESSIMISTS south of the border fear that England will struggle against the Scots at Wembley to morrow, there are moves in Tony Blair's office to see them blasted off the park. The Labour leader's press secretary, Alastair Campbell, is dusting down his bagpines

to blow for his team at the match.
"I can't decide whether to take my bagpipes or not," muses perhaps the world's biggest Burnley supporter. "My children aren't very keen on the idea, because the awful thing is they will be supporting England. Even worse than that they are Manchester United supporters. It's not good, all these people supporting Manchester United. It's a bad business,"

Up trumps

A LIFETIME'S ambition will be realised for the Bishop of Wake- in rhythm and harmony." field on Sunday when he conducts a brass band on Songs of Praise. When the Rt Rev Nigel McCulloch moved to Yorkshire in 1991, his latent passion for trumpets and trombones was awakened. He was invited to wave the baton for the



A new model for Tim Jeffries: Ines Sastre

Stanley Newmarket Band - and now stardom beckons. "In a way conducting is much

like being a bishop," he says, blowing his own trumpet. "You are drawing out the gifts of each musician by helping to keep them

Full book

FIRST one supermodel; now another. After breaking up with Elle "The Body" Macpherson, the chisel-chinned Green Shield Stamps heir Tim Jessries has snared Spain's leading fashion model Ines Sastre, the Max Factor girl. The couple went public at the

Paris Open where they snuggled up to watch the tennis, and they are pictured in the new edition of the gushing glossy Hola. Inseparable!" purrs the magazine in a nudge-and-a-wink editorial. "Incorrigible," retort Spanish fashion

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John Prescont was billed a. haditious) Training on education in by some sources Prehensive 200 a Principle of eco. on the direction Francic discuss minimise the c In the even with some of diological survival blus agarnin a —

Literary role for

Sir. Dr Thomas Stuttaford (article.

ther was in chokey on trumped-up

charges. The Swallows and Amazons

sailed their idyllic summer away

while their father was on the other

side of the world, appearing only in

telegram form to approve "the Boy

Roger's" participation in the voyage to

the island. The Famous Five were rou-

tinely chauffeured to their holiday

destination by a father who disap-

not to be seen again until a driver was

required for the trip home. The child-

ren who made friends with Stig of the

Dump were on holiday at their grand-

It's hardly surprising to me that, al-

though my wife and I look after our

children jointly (and work part-time to

do so), other mothers telephone and

ask if they can speak to "Tommy's

mum as if I was an interloper whose role should be confined to driving the

car, occupying a cell, or preferably sailing in a tramp steamer in the

pect of £10 million of lottery money

out the United Kingdom will provide

tremendous encouragement to those

individuals and institutions who have

struggled to promote sporting excel-lence without adequate funds.

Nevertheless, finance is only one in-

gredient in the recipe for success. Win-

ning medals requires quality coach-

ing. International sporting success

will be achieved when there is a cadre

of experienced and well resourced

coaches operating at high-perform-

ance centres distributed throughout

Scholarships are necessary but not,

in isolation, sufficient to produce the

heirs to Eric Liddell, Roger Bannister

(Director of Sport and Recreation).

Newtownabbey, County Antrim,

Mathematical tigers

Sir, Mr Magnus Linklater (feature.

June 6) states: "There is a long tradi-

tion of numeracy in South-East Asia.

If the peoples of that area are so nu-

merate, why have they seemingly not learned that in the long run the house

evidenced by a love of gambling . . .

From Mr M. M. Charlish

the United Kingdom.

and Sebastian Coe.

University of Ulster,

Northern freland.

Yours sincerely,

M. BROWN

upporting talented students through-

mother's.

South China Sea.

Eltham, SE9.

June 11.

Yours faithfully. GUY de la BÉDOYÈRE.

20 Eltham Park Gardens.

Sport coaching

peared (with the car) back to London.

absent fathers

From Mr G. de la Bédoyère



BACK TO BEEF

Three new problems for government and industry

Throughout the political crisis caused by the announcement of possible health risks in beef, the public has sought one thing above all, reliable knowledge which helps to eliminate doubt over any connection between BSE in animals and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in human beings. Genuine advances in scientific research are the only true guide to what measures governments must take to protect public health. The policies of European governments are otherwise guesswork based on varying estimates of what is required to reassure consumer confidence.

Three more nails were banged into the coffin of Britain's beef industry yesterday. First, an Anglo-French team of scientists disclosed new evidence which strongly suggests that feed contaminated with BSE is connected to the appearance of Creuzfeldt-Jakob disease in monkeys. Secondly, French scientists claimed to have warned the European Commission of the risks of disease transmission weeks before the British Government's announcement in March: they accused EU officials in Brussels of trying to suppress their warnings. Thirdly, the row intensified between Britain. France and the European Commission over who knew what and when about the animal feed banned in Britain being exported to France in the late 1980s. The cumulative effect of such developments is to strengthen the view that neither authorities nor food companies have told the full truth.

It is the new scientific research that counts the most heavily. Dr James Ironside, the leading British scientist investigating the elusive truth about the two diseases, says that yesterday's announcement in Paris strengthens the hypothesis that the cases of CID may be linked to BSE". While this cannot count as conclusive, the burden of proof is steadily shifting towards requiring beef producers to show beyond all doubt that BSE cannot enter the food chain. That will mean not only being able to convince the British authorities, but being able to reassure experts from the EU and from other EU governments that rules are enforced, that risks are being ruthlessly suppressed and that the commitment to public health is paramount.

The Government might reply that these conditions are already fulfilled. But a daisychain of fumbled and badly presented decisions has failed the test which governments facing public health crises must pass. Corrective measures must convince the people whose health the Government is

trying to protect. Ministers have changed their minds too often about the size of the cattle cull, ranging from the Deputy Prime Minister's pressure for a cull of the entire British beef herd down to the present, much more moderate plans. By failing to tell the European Commission beforehand that it was about to announce a shift in scientific opinion on BSE, the Government in general - and the Ministry of Agriculture in particular — revealed a feeble grasp of the tactics and strategy required to wage the battle of ideas which it must light. Revelations about feed have done more harm than any disclosures about the animals themselves. The Government failed to order the destruction of old feed stocks; eight years after a ban was imposed, some mills

were discovered to be using sheep remains. The Government's grudging, defiant and industry-dominated attitude to public concerns over BSE still requires an overhaul after several bruising weeks at the bar of world opinion. The Government's strategy for BSE still lacks the vigour and competence to carry conviction abroad - and the humility to acknowledge that the scientific verdict has not yet been returned.

KOHL'S POLICE PROJECT

British suspicions of Europol remain valid

If the German Chancellor's preferences predominate, the European Union summit in Florence next week will be centred not on beef but on the proposed extension of the powers of Europol. Even if this substitution of issues is achieved, easier relations between the United Kingdom and its European partners are unlikely.

Since 1990 Helmut Kohl has conducted a ampaign aimed at creating a pan-EU equivalent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. While he succeeded in establishing an embryonic body. Europol, in the Maastricht treaty, that organisation has exchange between different national police forces. Its present prospectus covers narcotics, automobile theft and illicit migration. While this has produced some valuable results, the Chancellor remains far more ambitious about its future role. He attempted to advance that goal at the Cannes gathering of EU leaders last year and will return to the attack again in Italy.

Herr Kohl's admirers might regard this as part of the man's wider and nobler vision of the future of Europe. The underlying monvations are, however, more nationalist in character. The end of the Cold War has left Germany vulnerable to increased flows of international crime, especially on its eastern boundaries. In particular the smuggling of nuclear material, hard drugs and illegal immigrants has become big and inconvenient business. The various strands of the Russian mafias are a major problem for Bonn. Hence German interest in the creation of a European FBI that would be more effective at preventing such activities reaching their borders.

To advance Europol beyond its current

status requires a unanimous decision on who should arbitrate on its powers in the likely event of disputes over its authority. Bonn has campaigned for the European Court of Justice (ECJ) to have this task. Resistance has been mounted by the British Government partly because no need for an ECJ role has been established, but largely because issues of criminal justice were assigned to the "third pillar" of Maastricht - namely that of inter-governmental coordination. Michael Howard has fought vigorously to preserve that status.

The struggle over Europol symbolises the present European Union. It is sensible and desirable to encourage member states to work together in the fight against organised crime. Whether Europol is offering any distinctive service from that already provided by Interpol is debatable, but it obviously does more good than harm. That, however, is an entirely different matter from whether the EU needs a supranational body to take charge of intelligence efforts.

In that light the move towards the ECJ rather than the Council of Ministers as the ultimate custodian of its activities is unnecessary and unwelcome. There is no substantive proof that an EU FBI is desirable, and good reason to suspect the opposite. German sources have suggested that in return for Herr Kohl's reluctant tolerance of a form of framework for beef exports. Britain should allow his pet project to prosper. That would not be an honourable bargain for the Government to make. Regardless of what is John Major's general policy towards the veto within the EU by the time he reaches Florence, he should continue

PRESCOTT'S EDUCATION

Britain has changed since the old Ruskin days

John Prescon's speech in Oxford last night was billed as a forceful restatement of traditional Labour values and philosophy on education. In particular, it was suggested by some sources that its defence of comprehensive schools and its stress on the principle of equality represented an attack on the direction that Tony Blair has taken. Frantic discussions have taken place to minimise the divisions between the two.

In the event, Mr Prescott's words were as much about personal biography as politics. His choice of venue was significant as his choice of subject. Although he failed his Ilplus examination. Mr Prescott got a second chance in his twenties at Ruskin College, the trade union-sponsored institute in Oxford. Without that route, it is unlikely that he would have found his way to the House of Commons and now to the very edge of the Cabinet table. This experience largely explains his instinctive suspicion, close to hostility, towards selection.

Noone, however, could or would want to recreate that past. The old rigid system placed an excessive weight on one piece of educational evidence at the age of il. Transfer between grammar schools and secondary moderns was exceptionally difficult. Thirty years ago Ruskin College was one of very few places providing another avenue for those rejected before their teenage years. The unsubtle mechanisms of the 1950s and 1960s should not be restored.

But they would not have to be. Greater

"setting" within comprehensive schools, the

essence of the Blair argument last week. allows for much creater flexibility than in the past. A common curriculum, regular and published testing throughout a school career, and a single, universal exam at le are all much better safeguards against discarding the late developer at an early age, or downgrading others. These innovations, introduced by the Conservatives and now apparently endorsed by the Labour leader. minimise the chance of future fates like Mr. Prescott's.

There are now many more means for a second chance. The Oxford where Mr Prescott spoke has colleges - Kellogg and Manchester - that deal overwhelmingly with mature students, most of whom were not star pupils at school. It has a thriving department of continuing education. In its days as a polytechnic, Oxford Brookes University was a leader in the 'modular' form of teaching that has encouraged huge participation by part-time students. Hundreds of others in the city itself will have benefited from the Open University. The idea that learning is a life-time experience ; and access to it should not be constrained by

age is now thoroughly accepted. Labour's deputy leader thus starts from a valid position. But Britain has changed. A greater emphasis on selection does not need to come at the cost of closing down chances for others. Diversity and quality can be reconciled with open opportunity today in a manner that was hard to conceive a generation back.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street. London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Call for tougher action on CO2

From the Chairman of the Royal Commission on Environmental Poliution, and others

Sir. The Government is a signatory of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed at Rio de Janeiro in 1992, committing the United Kingdom to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by the year 2000 to 1000 levels. Current trends indicate that this target will be achieved, but there is a very real danger that emissions will once more increase after that date unless further measures are

Continued increases in the global emissions of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels are likely to lead to climate change at a rate greater than the Earth has experienced at any time during the last 10,000 years. Since it is developing countries which are most vulnerable to such climate change, it is the poor of the world whose livelihood will be most endangered. Climate change is a moral issue as well as a matter of scientific

In March last year delegations of the countries that have ratified the convention met in Berlin, but no binding targets for reducing greenhousegas emissions beyond the year 2000 were agreed. Further negotiations are taking place in the hope of agreeing targets before the next meeting in 1997.

It is the industrialised countries that have contributed most to the climatechange problem through their greenhouse-gas emissions, and the Secretary of State for the Environment has urged all such countries to agree to reduce these by 5 to 10 per cent below 1990 levels before 2010. The Government's official Panel on Sustainable Development has welcomed his call, but pointed out that even such a modest target will require much greater energy efficiency and energy saving than at present by domestic users and industry, and in transport.

A change in anitude is required by both Government and individuals, and for this reason we welcome the current initiative of the World Council of Churches in launching a petition on climate change which calls upon the Government to adopt firm, clear policies and targets, and the public to accept the necessary consequences. Six years ago you thundered that "the church's espousal of these Jenvironmentall concerns can contribute powerfully to the material salvation of the planet from mankind's greed and indifference" (leading article, Septemher 18, 1980). We believe a positive response to the petition will in the long term improve the quality of life for all.

Chairman, Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution. DAVID BELLAMY R. J. BERRY (Chairman, Environmental Issues Network of the Council of Churches of Britain and Irelands. JOHN HABGOOD (Archbishop of York, 1983-95). MARTIN HOLDGATE (President, Zoological Society of London). T. L. JOHNSTON President, Royal Society of Edinburgh). AARON KLUG (President, Royal Society) GHILLEAN PRANCE Director, Royal Boranic Gardens Kewl. eto University College London. Department of Biology.

JOHN HOUGHTON.

Social housing

Gower Street, WCI

June (3.

From District Councillor Swan Band

Sir, Ian Murray (Viewpoint, June 6) calls for more Government spending on social housing in the interests of future savings in health and social security bills. Undoubtedly there is every need to accelerate the upgrading of social housing and here government grants play a significant part. But the main issue is sheer lack of lowcost housing stock, following imple-mentation of the "right-to-buy" policy and other factors. In my own district gupulation, 83,000), which has sold hearly 50 per cent of its stock, the waiting list has risen from 404 two years ago to \$25 in March 1996.

The Government has a unique oportunity to make a substantial addition to social housing through the sale of its MoD residential estates. The MoD and the DoE should comperate allocate a proportion of the surplus McD housing to non-profit making housing associations whose rents are railored to low-income tenants. Given the potential long-term profit to be made by the successful purchaser. this allocation should not seriously dent the capital receipt for the MoD while providing a tangible and well-

of service families about the nature of "mixed developments" (Housing Associations Weekly. May 24) but this is surely a matter to be resolved at local

Yours sincerely SUSAN BAND. Cedar House, Nr Hook, Hampshire. June II.

faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Money supply and inflation danger

From Professor Tim Congdon

Sir, Your leader "The kindest cut" (June 7) welcomes the Chancellor of the Exchequer's decision to cut base rates to 5% per cent last week and criti-cises "Cassandras at the Bank of England" who have been talking "omi nously of the risks of repeating the mistakes of 1986-87, when an unsustainable boom led to the bust of the early 1990s". But in one respect the situation is very similar to that in the mid-1980s. As then, there has been a clear and well-defined acceleration in monetary growth, as measured by the broad monetary aggregates which in-clude bank (and building society) de-

Between early 1985 and early 1986 the annual rate of monetary growth increased from slightly above 10 per cent to over 15 per cent. If this acceleration were to continue, it justified forecasts of above-trend growth in demand and output in late 1986 and 1987, and rising inflation in 1988 and later. (In fact, I made such forecasts in articles in The Times in 1986.1 Policymakers ought to have countered the upturn in monetary growth in 1986. If they had done so, the Lawson boom would never have occurred.

Between late 1994 and late 1995 the annual rate of monetary growth increased from under 5 per cent to about 10 per cent. So the acceleration in monetary growth was much the same last year as in 1985, although the levels of monetary growth (and indeed of inflation itself) were happily some-

In 1996 monetary growth has re

Sir. Mr Blair's speech (report and leading article. June 8) about the Labour Party's position on grouping by ability, or "setting", in schools leaves one uneasy.

tion of the size and nature of the groups in which children are taught is becoming politicised. The debate about the merits of "whole class" teaching is another example of this, as is the controversy about selection in education and the issue of integrating children with special educational needs in mainstream schools.

propriately be "taught" in very large groups, eg a school assembly. Sometimes they can be taught as a whole class: sometimes groups of varying size within a class are called for. At times each child will need the individual attention of the teacher.

Knowing and planning grouping is appropriate is one of the

Sir, If implanted early enough, pro-

foundly deaf children can benefit

more than any other group from coch-

lear implants. As your leader [June 5:

also letters. June 8] rightly says, oppo-

nents of these devices should consider

carefully before denying these child-

ren the opportunity to play an active

part in both the deaf and hearing

For the many millions of people who, like the splendid Jack Ashley,

lose their hearing later in life, int-

plants offer some hope of a return to a

familiar world of sound which most of

us take (or granted. As this remark-

able technology improves, it will be-

come a viable alternative to inade-

quate hearing aids. The current de-

Cochlear implants

From Lord Astor of Hever

Yours faithfully. ASTOR of HEVER (Vice-President. Hearing Research Trust), House of Lords.

told more about the embodied energy

costs and its thermal performance. This information would be essential if

the V&A were merely proposing to er-

ect a Thermos flask rather than a mu-

seum extension. It is to be a public

building to stand alongside other pub-

lie buildings facing on to an important

public space to be viewed willingly or

This being so, why can not the building be designed using a public

language rather than a private one

that is at best personal, subjective and,

otherwise by the public.

dare one say, hermetic.

(John Melvin Architects

The Studio. Wysdom House.

Millennium wheel

Sir, Before we get too heated about the

relative aesthetics of the proposed Fer-

May 27. June 4) we should remember

that the first Ferris wheel was shown

at the World's Columbian Exposition

I therefore pose the question as to

whether, over a hundred years later,

we cannot be rather more original. Is

Britain's unique contribution to the

third millennium to be the reinvention

Forest Lodge, Moonhills Lane,

Beaulieu, Hampshire.

ris wheel on the South Bank (letters.

and Town Planners),

115 High Street, Burford, Oxfordshire.

From Sir David Price

in Chicago in 1893.

of the wheel?

Yours sincerely.

DAVID PRICE

Yours faithfully.

JOHN MELVIN

June 12.

V & A extension

worlds.

From Mr John Melvin

scent social investment. Lam sensitive to the apprehensions

Thackhams Lane, Harrley Wintney,

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be forecast.

growth in credit and money now being recorded, the Chancellor's decision to reduce interest rates was not "the kindest cut". Instead it was unnecessary and misguided, and yet another demonstration of how politics interferes with sound monetary management in this country. Monetary growth of 10 per cent a year cannot, over the medium and long run, be reconciled with inflation of 212 per cent

TIM CONGDON (Member, Treasury Panel of Independent Forecasters). Lombard Street Research Ltd. Cannon Bridge, 25 Dowgate Hill, EC4.

Blair's school reforms

From Dr Ronald Davie

For some purposes children can ap-

bate should not be allowed to obscure its potential and exacerbate public

I. MILLS, 103 Holtspur Top Lane, Beaconsfield. Buckinghamshire. June 5.

From Sir Brian Young

Sir. The jousting between Robert Armstrong (article, June 4) and William Rees-Mogg (article, May 27; see also letters, May 24, June 4, 8, 12) has not addressed the key question; would the V&A do better to spend money on resolving the problems of its vast existing space and on free entry than on attracting attention with something just worthier of discussion than an "ace caff"? Has the existence of the National Lottery distorted its priori-

Yours truly, BRIAN YOUNG. Hill End, Woodhill Avenue. Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

> Sir, Martin Pawley (letter, June 8) suggests that in order to judge the merits

In the headlines From Mr Ansel Harris

Sir. The headlines "Hezbollah ambush kills 5 Israelis" and "Likud's resnonse could spell end of peace process* were juxtaposed to cover Christopher Walker's dispatches in today's Times. They perhaps inadvertently reflect a less than objective reporting of, and comment on, the incident.

What would have been the response had the report of the Docklands bombing been headlined "IRA terrorist bombing causes scrious damage in London" and "Major's response could spell end of ceasefire"?

Yours faithfully. ANSEL HARRÍS. 23 Ferneroft Avenue, NW3.

down in the next few quarters. Mone-June 11) writes as if absent fathers are tary growth is in fact running at or largely a modern phenomenon. above the top of the Government's I am, at present, in the course of reading my children a variety of literary "classics". The Railway Children own monitoring range. In early 1996 the economy has probhad their adventures while their fa-

ably been growing at a beneath-trend rate. Inflation is not an immediate problem and it is unlikely to trouble policy-makers before 1998 or 1999. However, contrary to your leader, there is a large body of evidence to suggest that growth will recover in late 1996, led by consumer spending and the housing market. Moreover, this recovery will occur without any cut in interest rates. As it happens, this is also the Government's own

mained roughly at about 10 per cent.

At current interest rates, there are no

compelling reasons to expect a slow-

In view of the unsustainably rapid

Yours etc.

From Mr Malcolm Brown most important and skilled professional judgments which schools and Sir, The recommendations of Sir Roteachers make. It should not, as your ger Bannister's working party on uni-versity sport scholarships are to be welcomed (report, June 11). The pros-

resulting groups will be homogene-ous. The reality is that individuals

within each set will still have diverse

needs, abilities and characteristics,

whether they are in the top set or the

bottom, and the teaching must take account of that. To neglect this diver-

sity is to produce sub-standard educa-

(Chairman, Policy Sub-committee),

National Association for Special

4/5 Amber Business Village,

Amber Close, Amington,

Tamworth, Staffordshire.

Yours etc. RONALD DAVIE

Educational Needs.

Nasen House.

leading article points out, be an ideological issue. Therefore, my own unease about Mr Blair's speech is that it might be taken to suggest that by placing children in sets for particular subjects the

My concern is that the whole ques-

misunderstanding of this devastating

disability.

From Mrs I. Mills

Sir, I note that Mr Sheill (photograph, June 5), who is opposed to aids for defective hearing, does not reject spec-tacles as an aid to vision. What is the difference?

Yours faithfully.

Polly Toynbee of Daniel Libeskind's proposals for the extension to the V&A we should be

always wins?

Yours faithfully,

132 Park Lane.

Carshalton, Surrey.

M. McEWEN CHARLISH,

From Mr Steve Voce

Sir, Surely you underestimate your readers by assuming that they are likely to find riveting the mating habits of Polly Toynbee and her cronies (article, June 13)?

Yours faithfully, STEVE VOCE, 15 Ashbourne Avenue, Blundellsands, Liverpool. June 13.

Modern manners From Sir Martin Berthoud

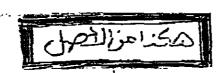
Sir, Perhaps courtesy still exists but in a different shape from the old-fash-ioned variety whose demise was recently bemoaned by Bernard Levin (article, June 7). For evidence I cite recent experience on the Tube. As a deceptively youthful-looking 64-year-old (in my mind's eye at least) I was horrified the other day when a schoolgirl in her early teens got up to offer me her seat. I barely managed a semi-courteous (negative) grunt in response.

Yours faithfully.
MARTIN BERTHOUD. Gillyflower Stoke by Nayland, Suffolk.

From Mr I. Nottingham Sir, "I . . . want to know why the world has changed so much and so dreadfully says Bernard Levin.

I think the change began with the television programme That Was The Week That Was. Perhaps Bernard Levin should have the good manners to say: "I'm sorry".

Yours sincerely, I. NOTTINGHAM, Gwynle, Chwilog. Pwilheli, Gwynedd.





COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

June 13: The Queen was present this evening when The Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General, took the Salute at Beat Retreat by the Royal Marines on Horse Guards Parade. Her Majesty and His Royal High-ness travelled in a carriage pro-cession to Horse Guards Parade, escorted by a Captain's Escort of the Household Cavalry, and were received by the Secretary of State for Defence (the Rt Hon Michael Portillo MPI, the Chief of the Naval Staff and First Sea Lord (Admiral Sir Jock
Slater) and Major General David
Pennelather (Commandant General Royal Marines).

royal Marinesi.
The Prince Edward was present.
The Duke of Edinburgh, President, this morning attended the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth's Seventeenth Biennial Conference at the Moar House International Hotel, Chester. BUCKINGHAM PALACE

June 13: The Princess Royal, Patron, National Association of Victim Support Schemes, this morning attended a meeting of the Advisory Board at Church House, Westminster, London

Her Royal Highness this evening opened the Portsmouth Close Circuit Television Initiative, Civic Offices, Guildhall Square. Portsmouth, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Mary

Fagan). The Princess Royal, President, British Olympic Association, later attended a Gala Dinner at Guildhall. CLARENCE HOUSE

June 13: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited the British Home and Hospital for Incurables in Streatham.

The Lady Angela Oswald, Sir Alastair Aird and Major Charles MacEwan were in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE. June 13: The Prince of Wales. President. The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, this morning pre-sided at a Council Meeting at St

James's Palace. His Royal Highness afterwards received the Baroness Chalker of Wallasey (Minister of State, Fore and Commonwealth Office and Min-

and Commonwealth Charles and Panister for Overseas Development).

The Prince of Wales, President, this afternoon gave a Luncheon at St James's Palace for members of the James's Palace for members of the HMS Kelly Re-union Association. His Royal Highness, Honorary President, Royal Academy Trust, later opened the refurbished Gallery III at the Royal Academy and mea American Associates of the Trust.

American Associates of the Irust.
The Prince of Wales this evening attended a Reception in connection with the "Best of Britain Food Promotion" at Formum and Mason. Piccadilly, London W). KENSINGTON PALACE

June 13: The Princess Margaret. Countess of Snowdon, President, The Counters of Snowdon, President, The Birmingham Royal Ballet, was present this evening at a performance of Fire From the Madding Crowd-the Allumbra Theatre, Bradford. Her Royal Highness was received

by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant o West Yorkshire (Mr John Lyles). KENSINGTON PALACE June 13: The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon visited Dundee and was received on arrival by Mr George Buckman (Deputy Lieuten-

Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Ophthalmology and the Diabetic Eye Screening Service at Ninewell's Hos-pital, Dundee. Afterwards The Duchess of

ant of the City of Dundeel

Gloucester visited Edinburgh and was received on arrival by Councillor Donald Corrie (Deputy Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh). Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Iris Fund, visited the Medical Re-

search Council, Human Genetics Unit at the Western General Hos-pital, Crewe Road, Edinburgh. in the evening The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, Scottish Opera, attended a performance of "La Traviata" at Edinburgh Festival The-atre, Nicholson Street, Edinburgh,

ST JAMES'S PALACE June 13: The Duke of Kent, Grand President, Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys, this morning opened Burwood House, Parker Street, London WC2.

YORK HOUSE

His Royal Highness, Honorary President, this evening attended a dinner to mark the retirement of the Director, Dr John Hemming, Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London SW7.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, Restoration of Appearance and Fun resonance of Appearance and Func-tion Trust, this evening attended a reception on the set of London Weekend Television's "London's Burning", Long Lane, London SEI. THATCHED HOUSE LODGE RICHMOND PARK

June 13: Princess Alexandra. Patron of the Starlight Foundation, this afternoon visited the Starlight Express Room at Llandough Hospital, Penarth, and was received by her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan (Captain Norman Lloyd-Erwards).

Her Royal Highness, Patron of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, also visited the Cystic Fibrosis Adult Centre at Llandough Hospital.

Princess Alexandra subsequently opened the new Royal National Lifeboat Institution Boat House and named the Atlantic 75 Lifeboat, "Spirit of Penarth", at Penarth Life-boat Station, South Glamorgan. Her Royal Highness was repre-sented by the Lady Mary Mumford at the Funeral of the Countess of Pertu which was held this afternoon in St John's Episcopal Church, Perth.

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as putron, will open the new headquarters of the Royal National Institute for Deal People at Featherstone Street, ECI, at 10.15: as Patron of the Shakespeare Globe Trust, will visit Shakespeare's Globe, Bankside, at noon: and, as president, will attend the 1996 Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth's end of conference dinner at the Moat House International Hotel.

The Prince of Wales will officially open the Sandwich Bay Wastewater Treatent Scheme, Weatherlees Hill Wastewater Treatment Works. Ramsgate, at 11.55; and will open the Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Hospital, Margate, at 1.15. The Princess Royal will visit Holton

Lee, Poole Harbour, at 11.45; and, as President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend the regional recep-tion at Poxwell Manor, Weymouth, at

The Duke of Kent, as Chancellor of Surrey University, will preside at the conferment of degrees ceremony at Guildford Cathedral at 10.30; and, as given by the Secretary of State for Defence in honour of the American Secretary for Defence at Apsley

Luncheons

HM Government Mr Jeremy Hanley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Af-fairs, was the host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lancaster House in honour of a Parliamentary Delega-

Mr J.S. Borner, Master of the Farmers Company, presided at a ladies luncheon held yesterday on board HQS Wellington. The Masters of the Leathersellers' and Woolmen's Companies and their ladies were

Dinner Scientific Instrument Makers'

Company
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress

accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual dinner of the Scientific Instrument Makers' Company held last night at the Mansion House. Mr David Wallis, Master, accompanied by Mrs Wallis, presided Sir, Peter Imbert Wallis, presided. Sir Peter Imbert and Mr Bill Lyons, Senior Warden, also spoke. Among others present



Majid Diyab, an Israeli archaeologist, copying one of the panels yesterday of a rare AD 300 Roman mosaic discovered during a test dig for a planned road widening in the Israeli town of Lod. The mosaic, which measures 60ft by 32ft, covered the floor of a room in a Roman villa and depicts wild animals in a variety of scenes. In Roman times, Lod was located along Roman trade routes linking Gaza, Damascus and Jerusalem

Flower show toasts gin and tonic garden

By Alan Toogood, HORTICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE first outdoor garden to be created at the BBC Gardeners' World Live National Flower and Garden Show has been awarded a gold medal.

The Gin and Tonic Garden, from The Sunday Times and Agriframes, of East Grinstead, West Sussex, is intended to be a relaxing retreat for the tired commuter. It is divided into outdoor rooms by means of Agriframes' black steel pergolas, over which are trained climbing plants, such as clematis, roses and wistaria

The other gardens at the show are under cover and include the recycled garden made from reclaimed materials designed for the Daily Express by Geoff Hamilton, the television gardener. Drought-resistant gardens have been

created by Severn Trent Water and jointly by Christian Aid and BBC Wildlife magazine. Drought-tolerant

Birthdays today

Dri Inuays upray

Dr Sir James Black, pharmacologist, 72; Mr Paul Boateng, MP, 45; Dame Florence Cayford, former member, LCC and GLC, 99; Professor Peter Fowler, archaeologist, 60; Miss Steffi Graf, tennis player, 27; Lady Healey, writer, 78; Mr Stuart Holmes, registrar (protocol), Westminster Abbey, 48; Mr David LeRoy-Lewis, former chairman, Henry Ansbacher Holdings, 78; Air Marshal Sir Arthur McDonald, 93; Mrs Yvonne Moores, chief nursing officer, Department of Health, 55; Mr Herbert Pearson, former Editor, The European, 60; Sir Gertard Peat, chartered accountant,

Gerrard Peat, chartered accountant.

76; Mr Jonathan Raban, novelist. 54:

Dame Rosemary Rue, former presi-

actor and writer, 47; Professor Trevor

Smith, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ulster, 59; Mr James Wright, Vice-Chancellor, Newcastle University, 57; Mr Mike Yarwood, impressionist, 55.

Memorial lecture

Colin Cherry Memorial Lecture

Under the sponsorship of Interval Research Corporation, USA, the Ninth Colin Cherry Memorial Lec-

ture on Communication was deliv-ered by Sir David Puttnam last night at Imperial College of Science, Tech-nology and Medicine. Among those present at a reception and dinner held

present at a reception and omner ned afterwards were Professor Sir Ronald Oxburgh (Rector) and Lady Oxburgh, Lady Puttnam, Professor Bruce Sayers, Professor Patrick Pur-cell and Professor Bob Spence. Mr David Liddle, President of Interval

Research, was represented by Profes-sor Gillian Crampton-Smith.

DEATHS

Policy of the state of the stat

flowers have been used as well as gravel mulches to prevent rapid moisture loss.

The bamboo garden from Wyevale Nurseries and Garden Centres demonstrates that many of these plants are hardy, non-invasive and combine well with other garden plants. The plants

have been grouped according to colour.

Another unusual idea is the non-green

garden from Hollybush Garden Centre, of Cannock, Staffordshire, planted with coloured-leaved plants such as golden hop and blue grasses One of the gardens in The Sun's flower street has a strong subtropical feel, created by large-leaved plants such as

yuccas and tree ferns. The garden, created by Barton Grange garden centres, reflects the growing interest in this style of gardening.

The best exhibit in the Royal Horticul-

tural Society's show, which forms a large part of this event, is a display of herbaceous perennials and ornamental grasses from Hall Farm Nursery of Oswestry, Shropshire, grouped according to colour.

Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants of

Whitchurch, Hampshire, have created some charming effects with purple ornamental onions, yellow verbascums. blue campanulas and many other cottage garden perennials. Hopleys Plants, of Much Haddon, Hertfordshire, are featuring a new hardy tradescantia called "Chedglow" which has light gold grassy foliage and purple flowers.

There is much to interest lovers of exotic plants, such as passion flowers from Greenholm Nurseries of Kingston Seymour, Avon. They are showing Passiflora lourdesae, a Venezuelan species that has become extinct in the wild. It is being propagated and will eventually be reintroduced to the wild.

The show, in the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, is open between 9am and 6pm. and closes on Sunday at 6pm. The telephone number for tickets is 0121 767 4111.

Church news

Dean of St Paul's Cathedral The Very Rev Dr John Moses, Provost of Chelmsford, is to be Dean of The Cathedral Church of St Paul in London. He succeeds the Very Rev Eric Evans, who retires on September 30.

The Rev Keith Hawkes, formerly Rector. Wickmere, Little Barningham. Interingham and Edgefield, and Priest-in-charge, Saxthorpe, Blickling and Oulton: now Rector of the new benefice of Little Barningham, Blickling, Edgefield, Itteringham w Mannington, Oulton w Irmingland, Saxthorpe of Cornesty and Wickmere w Wolterw Corpusty and Wickmere w Wolter ton (Norwich). The Rev Neil Hibbins, Assistant

Chaplain, Walsall Manor Hospital: to be Rector, Norton Canes to be F (Lichfield). The Rev Michael Hough, Vicar, Felling: to be Priest-in-charge (Rector as 500n as suspension of presentation may be lifted), St John's, Gateshead Fell (Durham).

The Rev Manthew Hughes, Curate, Fulham All Saints (London): to be Team Vicar, District of St Christopher, Newington and St Catherine, Manston, St Laurence-in-Thanet

Team Ministry (Canterbury). Canon Rex Hurrell, Vicar, St Mark. Swindon: to continue as Rural Dean of Wroughton (Bristol) for a further

The Rev David Jackson, Curate. Banbury Team Ministry and Chap-lain at Horton Hospital (Oxford): is

now Team Vicar, Banbury Team Ministry (Oxford). The Rev Paul Kerr. Associate Priest, St Mark. Gillingham: to be also Rural Dean of Gillingham The Rev Anthony Kerswill, Vicar, Bracebridge: to be also Rural Dean of

Christianity (Lincoln). The Rev Graham Leworthy: to be Assistant Curate of Sark The Rev John Libby. Associate Vicar. Emmanuel Church. Northwood

(London): to be Vicar, St James, Carlisle (Carlisle). Canon Terence Louden, Vicar, St Philip, Cosham: to be Vicar, East Meon and Vicar, St John the Evangelist, Langrish (Portsmouth). The Rev Dr Peter Marr, Priest-in-charge, Sr Barnabas, Beckenham (Rochester); to be Vicar of the parish

The Rev David Meara, Rector, Buckingham w Radelive cum Chackmore: to be also Priest-in-charge. Nash w Thornton. Beachampton and Thornborough (Oxford).

Upper Slaughter Church

The new stained glass windows at Upper Slaughter Church, designed by Thomas Denny, will be dedicated in memory of Major-General and Mrs F.V.B. Witts by the Right Revd John Yates during morning service, II-I5am. on Sun-day, July 7.

Anniversaries BIRTHS: Thomas Pennant, natural-

BIRTHS: Thomas Pennant. natural-ist. Downing, Flintshire, 1726: Har-riet Beecher Stowe, novelist, Litchfield, Connecticut, 1811: Karl Landsteiner, pathologist, Vienna. 1868: John McCormack, tenor, Athlone, 1884; Che Guevara, guerrilla leader, Rosario, Argentina, 1928. DEATHS: Sir Henry Vane, par-liamentarian, executed, London, 1662: Benedict Arnold, American Revolution officer, later a traitor, London, 1801; Edward Fitzgerald, London, 1801; Edward Fitzgeraid, translator of The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam, Merton, Norfolk, 1883; Alexander Ostrovsky, dramatist, Shchelykova, Russia, 1886; Jerome K. Jerome, author of Three Men in a otoril 1927: Er

Pankhurst, suffragette, London, 1928; G.K. Chesterton, writer, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, 1936; Maxim John Logie Baird, pioneer of tele-vision, Bexhill, Sussex. 1946: Jorge Luis Borges, Argentine writer, Geneva, 1986: Bernard Miles, actor. Piccadilly. 10th Baiuch Regiment. founder of the Mermaid Theatre, London, 1991.

The Royalists were defeated by Cromwell's New Model Army at Naseby, Northamptonshire, 1645. The Germans entered Paris, 1940. Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life imprisonment, 1964.

Memorial service

Lady Edith Foxwell The Memorial Service for Lady Edith Forwell will be held at the Brompton Oratory, London SW3, on Monday.

Meeting British Academy of Forensic Dr David Jenkins presided at a

Forensic Sciences held yesterday at the Central Criminal Court, Judge Ann Goddard, QC, president of the academy, and Judge Neil Denison, QC, were the speakers.

2nd Punjab Regiment Officers'

man presided at the annual lun-cheon of the 2nd Punjab Regiment Officers' Association held yesterday at the Army and Navy

Endree-Wright presided at the annual reunion luncheon of the 8th Puniab Regimental Association

Brigadier J.P. Randle presided at the annual luncheon given yesterday by the officers of the 10th Baluch Regiment and their ladies at the Army and Navy Club.

School

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.M. Attenborough and Miss F.A. Fitzgerald

The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs Philip Attenborough, of Seal Chart, Kent, and Fiona, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs John Fitzgerald, of Maidenhead,

Captain W.J.K. Galbraith ud Miss S.J. Pickard

The engagement is announced between Captain William Galbraith, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, son of the Hon David and Mrs Galbraith, of Barskinuming, Ayrshire, and Sara Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Pickard, of Eshott, Northumberland.

Mr R. Gueterbock and Miss J. Uzvölgyi

The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs William Gueterbock. of Buckland Newton, Dorset, and Judit, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Sandor Uzvólgyi, of Solymar, Budapest, Hungary. Dr C.J. Haworth

and Miss E.J. Leach The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs William Haworth, of Worthing, West Sussex, and Emma, eldest daughter of Mr and Hertfordshire.

Mr M.J. Henigan and Miss D.H. Castree The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Henigan, of Caliso, Co Waterford, Ireland, and Debora. younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Castree, of Hartford, Cheshire.

Mr D.A. McDermott and Miss S.G. Gibson The engagement is announced between Damian, only son of Mr and Mrs J. Anthony McDermott, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and Stroma, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Myles Gibson, of Leeds. Mr B.M.L. Smith

Richardson nent is announced The engage between Benedict, younger son of Mr Alan Smith, of St John's Wood, London, and Mrs Adele Smith, of Combe, Oxfordshire, and Katie, middle daughter of Mr and Mrs David Ryder Richardson, of Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire.

Mr G.W. Stanford

and Miss L.G. Chamberlin The engagement is announced between Giles, younger son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs William Stanford, of Lower Froyle, Hampshire, and Lucy, elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Peter Chamberlin, of Coombe Bissett, Wiltshire.

Marriages

Mr P. Crow and Miss N.J. Kyme The marriage took place on Saturday, June 8, 1996, at St Mary the Virgin, Claverton, Bath, of Mr Paul Crow, son of Mr and Mrs John Crow, of Chandlers Ford, to Miss Nicola Kyme, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Kyme, of Bath. The Rev Timothy officiated.

The bride who was given in

marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Lisa Kyme, Miss Elizabeth George, Miss Nicola Crow, Victoria Teather and Samantha Ryan. Mr James Attfield was best man. A reception was held it Homewood Park, Hinton

Charterhouse, Bath. Mr W.M.T.S. Sieghart

and Miss M.M. Dineen The marriage took place on Saturday, June 1, 1996, at St Francis of Assisi, Notting Hill, of Mr William Sieghart, son of Mrs Felicity Ann Sieghart and the late Paul Sieghart, and Miss Molly Dineen, daughter of Mrs Anne

Lecture Royal Society Sir Martin Wood, FRS, delivered

the Royal Society Clifford Paterson lecture yesterday at 6 Carlton House Terrace. Sir John Horlock, FRS, was in the chair.

meeting of the British Academy of

Service luncheons

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Derek Mil-8th Punjab Regimental

Lieutenant-Colonel Rob Mc-

James Allen's Girls'

Were you at JAGS? The school is very keen to renew contact with all former pupils. Please send your name and address to: Mrs V. Wienand, JAGS, Eas(Dulwich Grove, London SE22 8TE.

Service receptions Royal Marines

Carnt and Mr Michael Dineen.

The Duke of Edinburgh was present at a reception last night at the Durbar Court, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, given by Major-General David Penne-father, Commandant-General, and Officers of the Royal Marines. after Beating Retreat by the Massed Bands of Her Majesty's Royal Marines on Horse Guards Parade. The Secretary of State for Defence and Mrs Portillo and the Cantain General Royal Marines

Indian Army Association Captain Sir Charles Frossard, President of the Indian Army Association, received the guests at the annual reunion held yesterday at Hurlingham.

School news Merchant Taylors' School

Exhibitions awarded to incoming pupils. Major Scholarships Moriey: G.M. Bulman, York House Andrew: O.G. Lloyd, St Martins. Lord Halley: A. Makan, St Johns.

Hall. Sir Gilbert Murray: A.V. Tanna, St Martins.

Minor Scholarships
Mahyn: M.H. Puttergill, Caldicon.
D.J. Anderson, Quainton Hall: A.J.
Bangham. Northwood Prep; P.J.W.
Bruce. St. Martins, K. Hussein, York
House, J.A. Wright, York House. Sixth Form

Exhibition: S.A.Q. Rana, Claremont High School. Music Exhibitions P.J.W. Bruce, St Martins; O.G. Lloyd, St Martins: A.M. Rowlandson, St Martins.

Gray's Inn Chambers The members of Gray's Inn Chambers held a dinner party yesterday evening at the Savov Hotel on the occasion of the 70th birthday of Mr Milton Grundy. He founded the chambers, which specialise in

BMD'S: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

If riches are a possession to be desired in life, what is richer than wisdom, the active cause of all things? Wisdom of Solomon 8 : 5 (REB)

BIRTHS

ACKLAND - Mr and Mr M.J.S. Ackland are delights to announce the birth of the on Harry John Stanley, who arrived at 9.50 am or Stn June 1996.

BOULTON - On Tuesday 11th

June 1996. to Jacqueline and

Stephen. a son. Edward

Frederick Findlay, a brother

for Caroline, Katle and

tenether

DALTUM - On June 5th, to Jane (née Witson) and Gregory, a daughter, isabella Jane Iona, a sister for

Shiftson - On 12th June, to Kathryn (née Jones) and Singt, a son, William David, a brother for Andrew. a brother for Andrew.

JONES - On 13th June 1996.
In Joanna (née Thurpham)
and Simon, a soo. Sam, a
brother for Jack.

MADDAM - On June 11th to
David and Juliet (née
Thornton-Berry), a son.
Rabh Anthony.

Thoraton-Berry), a son.
Raiph Authony.

MAITLAND - On June 6th in Dubat. to John and Jane, a son, William Wallaier.

MAKOWSKI - On June 6th 1996, to Cally (née Palmer) and lan, a daughter.

Alexandra Sasha Lara and a son, Julian Ian, a sister and trother to Christopher.

MITCHESON - On June 9th, to Paul and Wendy (née Tugwell). a son, Archie Mycroft Wansbrough. a brother for Hugh, Olivia and Francesca.

MOWALI. - On 4th June, to

AOWIL - On 4th June, to Annabel (née Tuilberg) and Benjamin, 2 daughter, Sophie Annabel Ruttey, SCOTTS - On June 7th 1996, to Nicky and Roger, a daughter, Lucy Georgia, a sister for Olivia and Alice. sser for Ouvia and Auce.
SMGER - Ou May 25th 1996,
to Sarah (née Marron) and
Humphrey. a daughter.
Matikia Grace.
SMITH - On June 3rd 1996,
to Charlotte (née Galber) and
Paul. a daughter, Amelia
Charlotte Monrad, a sister

BIRTHS SUTHERLAND - On June 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Alexandra and Howard, a son. Christopher, a brother for Ashity. SUTTON - On 12th June 1996, to Andrew and Catherine, a son, Louis Jack a brother for our beautiful daughter Jessica Ellen.

VERSCHOYLE - On June 11th. to Henrietta (née Dean) and James. a daughter. Emily Catherine. WINDSOR-AUBREY - On June 9th, to Cathryn (née Gibney) and George, a second daughter, Alice.

DEATHS

ALIAN - Arthur David Clark passed away suddenly on Tuesday 4th June 1996 aged 54. Funeral Service at Mistley Church on Wednesday 19th June 1996 at 2.30 pm followed by cremation at Weeley Crematorium. Flowers or donations if desired made payable to Heddingham Ward OCH c/o Geo. Paskell Funeral Service. 16 High Street, Manningtree, Essex. All friends welcome at Crown Hotel Manningtree after the cremation.

BARBER - On 11th June suddenly whilst on holiday in Majorus. Nicolas Geoffrey of Sedgeford. Norfolik. Wonderful hisband of Elise. Wonderful husband or Eise, tabulous father to Suzy, William, Alex and Jonathan, All enquiries please to: John Lincoln F/D. 40 Greevegale, Hunstanton, Norfolk, tel: (01485) 534421. ISTRICEMMEAD - Julia Jane (née Reeves) on 12th June 1996 peacefully at home after a long brave fight against leubzemia. Private cremation on Friday 14th June followed by Memorial Savice at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Bickington, Saturday 15th June 1996 at 2 pm. Flowers may be sent to Zealley Funeral Service. 20 Union Street, Newton Abbot. Devon TQ12 2JS, tel: (01626) 62555.

DEATHS BUNCLARK - Pencefully or 12th June at King Edward VII Hospital, Midiumst, Doris Emily (Dick), aged 90 Beloved wife of the late Cyri

VII Hospital, Michigani, Doris Emily (Dick), aged 90. Beloved wite of the lain Cyril Henry (Tom) and dearest mother of Brian and Daphae and their families. Thanksylving Service at St Mary's Church, Felpham. Bognor Regis on Wednesday 19th June at 3 pm. Donations if desired to The Childrens Society. c/o Reynolds Funeral Service. 31. High Street, Bognor Regis. tel: (01243) 866746. CHALLINGS - Dr. Anthony Inh. F.G.S., died peacetully in hospital 12th June 1996 aged 56 yaurs, dearly loved husband of Marilyn and loving failer of Ryan, Sare and Dana, stepfather of Martin. Caroline and Melissa. Funeral Service at All Saints Church. Church Gate. Fulhaim, Sw6. Tuesday 18th June at 10 am followed by creation at Putney Vale at 11 am. Flowers or enquiries to Bailard and Barker. 235 Munster Road, Fulham Sw6. (0171) 385-0866. CHAPPELL - Leonard Walber Andrews, peacefully at home on 12th June 1996 aged 85 years. Devoked husband of Anne Holman and the lane Counte. Faiher of Timothy, Peter, Sarah and grundfather of Janeth Henry. Burnshy, Adam. Christopher and Jone Much loved by all his family and friends, Funeral Service at the West Suffolk Crematorium, Bury 51 Edmunds, Wednesday 19th Edmunds, Wednesday 19th Edmunds, Wednesday 19th Edmunds, Wednesday 19th

Service at the West Sufficite Crematorium. Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday 19th June at 3.45 pm. Family flowers carly donations if desired to 4th Bn Essex Regiment Comrades Association, c/o 11 Hunter Avenue, Shenfield. Brentwood. Essex. CM15 SPE. Breatwood. Essex. CM16
SPE.
COLLENGS - Rex. publisher
and writer. The funeral
service and thanksgiving for
the life of Rex Collings will
take piace at St Marylebone
Parish Church. 117
Marylebone High Street.
London on Friday 21st June
at 2 pm. No Howers, but
donations if desired to the
African Education Trust (Jin
Landymore 0171 240 0726).

DEATHS DUPRÉ - Frederick Henry (Ibumy) - born 18th July 1900 - passed away beachully at home on the 8th June 1996. Much loved husband of Ards and much loved father of Am. David. Gregory. Ingrid and Christina. Private family funeral service at St Nicholas Parish Church. Elstree Village on 14th June. Flowers from family only please. Any other kind donations to the Biue Cross Animar's Hospital. 1 Hush Street. London. Swiv 1QQ. EDELSTEN - At Himseville. Natal. on June 13th, Francis John Musicati. loved son of Grace and the late Dr. Alan Edelsten, and father of Felicity. Rossmany. Andrew and Throofny. FOSS - Denis on his birthday June 11th, Captain M.N. (rati), aged 80, much loved husband. father and grandfather. Funeral Service at St James' Church. Preston Plucknett. Yeovil. on Tuesday June 18th at 11.48am. followed by remarked. In the Alzheimer's Society c/o Wakety Bros. 25 Sparrow Road. Yeovil. GREEN - Jamet Grace Norie, Suddenly on June 10th, aged 84. Widow of Maurice, much loved mother of Anthony and Michael, grandmother of Laura. James. Chioe. Charies, Jennifer. Allan, ian and David. great-yand Michael, grandmother of Laura. James. Chioe. Charies, Jennifer. Allan, ian and David. great-yand Michael, grandmother of Hurry. She will be greatly nissed. The funeral service will be at the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin. Twyford. Hands. on Thursday, June 27th at 12 noon. Enquiries to Jno. Steel & Son Ltd.. Chest House. Winchester. tel: (01962) 844044. Minchester. tel: (01962) 844044. Kontel William Corn New York November 1914), much loved wife of Roger. Funeral Service at Mortake Cremaiorium on Thursday 20th June at 11 am. No

MARSZALEK - Krysia, aged 45. died suddenly on the 10th June in Houston U.S.A. Beloved wife of Tony (Tosiek) desiry loved mother of Romek. Dominik and Tanya. Much charished daughter of Meccyslaw and Mchelina. beloved sister to Marek. Ewa and Iwona. Dearest daughter-in-law to Comasz and Barbara and sister-in-law to Lalka. She will be greatly missed by her family and her many friends around the world. The family welcome all who knew Krysia to join with them in celebrating her life. The funeral service to be held in Birmingham. All enquiries piesse to Funeral Directors V. Morton and Som 0121-476-9111.

DEATHS

MELSOM - On June 11th peacefully in hospital. Chrence William (Clarrie) of C.W. Nelson Solicitors, Leeds. Dearty loved husband of Lucie Margaret, dearfainer of Julia and Robert, beloved grandfather of Mark. Verity. Joshua and Bartholomew. Service and committal at St Barnabas Church, Gallowgate Lane. Weeton. nr. Leeds. on Tuesday June 18th at 2 pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only piezze. Douations in Seu if dealired for St John's.

MASON - Robert Arthur, passed away peacefully on 8th June. A dearly loved husband, father and grandfather who will be greatly massed. The Funeral Service will be held at Christ Church. Cockfosters, on 19th

PERSONAL COLUMN

cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu if desired for St John's Church, North Rigton c/o The Rev. Paul Summers, The Rectory. Kirkby Overblow, Harrogats. North Yorkshire HG3 1HD for which purpose a plate will be placed in the Church. Enguiries to JE. Spence I.M., Funeral Directors, tel: (0113) 266 2842.

PERCY - On June 11th Rev. Henry Graham Piercy of Gosforth, Newcastle Upon Tyne, formerly Vicar of St George's Jesmond 1950-1968. Requism Mans and funeral at St George's Church on Friday 21st June at 11 am. Cremalion private. No flowers. If wished donations to St Oswald's Hospice.

SHEPPERD - On June 12th, his 60th birthday. Douglas. Deur Rusband of Peggy and loving father of Andrew. John. his daughters-in-law Norma and June and his grandchildren Emily, Harriet, James. William. Catherine, Benjamin and Alice. Funeral Service, June 18th 2.30 pm at Constantine Parish Church followed by privale committal. Family flowers only please.

31810 NIDS - GOODING -

flowers only please.

BIMO BIDS - GOODING - Harry Anthony died tragically aged 17 on June 10th in Cornwall - the beloved son of Flona of Hombury St. Mary: brother to Rupert. Lucinda. Domanique. Benedict. George and Sam: stepson of Marjorie and stephrother of Dan: grandson of Roste and Hamilton and step-grandson of Wendy: uncle to Ezra. Arlo. Thomas and Sage: brother-in-law of Nicky. Kez and Mark. All these and his many, many friends and relations will remember him always. Funeral to be held at Midday on Friday 21st June at Christ, the Prince of Peace Church. Portmore Way. Weybridge. Survey. Floral tributes or donations. If wished, to Macmillan Cancer Relief Young Appeal or Surjers Against Sawage 63. Agnet. Cornwall c/o Lodge Brot. 36 High Street. Weybridge KT13 SAB Tel: 01952-854758.

SIMPSON - John Liddle Singson CMG TD QC, dear husband of Ursuka, died at home on June 8th aged 83. Funeral on Thursday June 20th at 245 pm at Puthey Vale Crematorium. Rochampton Vale, London SW18. (West Chapel). All flowers only please. BIMONDS-GOODING

Rochampton Vale, London SW15. (West Chapel). All

DEATHS

THWAITES - On 12th June after a short filmess Barbara (née France-Miller) of Baldork aged 55 years widow of David and mother of Nicholas and Christopher. of Nicholas and Christopher, Funeral Service on Wednesday 26th June 2 pm at 51 Mary's Church, Baldock, Family flowers only by request, Donaftons if desired for Leukaemia Research and local charities may be sent c/o Mr N Thwaites, 8 Phoentx Lodge Mansions, Brook Green, London W6 7BG, Ali enquiries to E.H. Crouch, 23A Hinchin Street, Baldock, let: (01462) 893191. VON MOTESICZKY - Marie-

Louise. Painter. died suddenly in hospital on 10th June. Friends and immily will never forget her mervellous personality. Funeral Service on 20th June at 11.30 sm et Golder Green Crematorium. Marie-Louise loved flowers. WATIGH - Vera Mary passed away peacefully on Wednesday 12th June 1996. beloved wife of Thomas Cauries, much loved mother of Valerie and Devid. The funeral service is to be held on Monday 17th June at the Parish Church of St Oswald. Sackford. Chester at 2.15pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd. Backford. Gester. CH2 48J. Enquiries to Dutton & Hallmark

(01244) 310966.

WONTINER-SMITH - Chion suddenly but peacefully at Royal Bournemouth Hospital on June 1 ith aged 83. Wonderfut father to Surah and Anthony, dearly loved hig brother to Margaret and Graham. Will be grantly missed by State, Edith, Jame and Paul and all his family and friends. Funeral Service at Poole Crematorium, Gravel Hill, Broadstone, at 3.30 pm on Tuesday 18th June. Family flowers only. Donations to Royal Bournemouth Hospital.

DEATHS

WOODROFFE - Peacefully, after a short liness. Brigadier John Woodroffe DSO. Husband to Ruth and fether to Simon and Patrick. Fuzzeral Service at 11.30 am on Thursday 20th June at St Micheles Church, Childe

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Eric Wood, civil servant chaeologist and author died on May 21 ared \$5 He was burn on November 22 1912

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OBITUARIES

Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, President of India, 1977-82, died on June | aged 83. He was born on May 19. 1913.

WHEN Dr Zakir Hussain, the third President of India, died in office in 1969, few expected that the choice of his successor would unsettle political alignments and contribute to a split in the ruling Congress Party. Defined in the Indian constitution as a largely ceremonial post, the occupant of Lutyens's imposing Viceregal Palace renamed Rashtrapti Bhawan in 1950 was by convention either a venerable elder statesman or a distinguished

In 1969 the working committee of the Congress Party had other ideas. Dissatisfied with the performance of the Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, who led the party to a very slender victory in the 1967 general election, the organisational bosses (better known as the Syndicate) overruled the nominee of Jawaharlal Nehru's daughter. They settled for Neelam Sanjiva Reddy then Speaker of the Lower House of

Parliament - as the party's candidate. The Syndicate calculated that a pliant President would make it that much easier for the Congress Party to stage a silent coup and to remove Indira Gandhi from the prime ministership. Defying party discipline. Indira Gandhi encouraged the candidature of V. V. Giri. Backed by the Communist Party which was enthralled by her sudden rediscovery of socialism. Indira Gandhi appealed for a "conscience vote". In an extremely close contest. Reddy was defeated by Giri and within a few months the

Congress Party split vertically. A despondent Reddy never forgave Indira Gandhi for what he thought was a betrayal of the Congress Party. Teaming up with the Syndicate, he was part of the amorphous Grand Alliance of the Congress (O) and right-wing parties which fought the 1971 election on an anti-Indira plank. The outcome for them was disastrous. Indira Gandhi's Congress won a landslide victory on the promise of banishing poverty from India. Reddy lost his own parliamentary seat in the state of Andhra Pradesh. As Indira Gundhi rose to become a national hero during the Bangladesh war of 1971, and then plummeted in popularity during the **SANJIVA REDDY**



Emergency of 1975-77, Reddy merely

faded out of public gaze. He got his revenge in March 1977. Joining the Janata Party which was formed at the behest of Jayaprakash Narayan to "restore democracy" in India, he was re-elected to Parliament from his old seat. Indira Gandhi lost the election and the new Government headed by Morarji Desai honoured Reddy with the post of Speaker of the Lower House. He had already held the position with distinction between 1967 and 1969.

In July 1977 the post of President fell vacant and Reddy was offered the prize that had eluded him so narrowly eight years previously. A demoralised Congress opted out of a contest and Reddy was unanimously elected the sixth President of India. He raised a few

eyebrows and offended Hindi enthusiasts by taking his oath of office in

English. His term in office was not uneventful. Plagued by internal dissensions, the Janata Party split in 1979 and Desai was replaced by Charan Singh who formed a Government with the back-ing of Indira Gandhi's Congress, But before the Government could pass its first parliamentary test, the Congress withdrew support. Charan Singh resigned but also recommended the dissolution of Parliament and a fresh general election. President Reddy had to decide between the advice of a Prime Minister whose majority was untested and the claim of the Januta Party's Jagjivan Ram to form a government. He settled for Singh's advice and was widely criticised for denving Ram, a

member of a Hindu Unrouchable easte, the opportunity of forming a government. Reddy was unfazed, even when the general election of 1980 led to a resounding victory for his old adversary, Indira Gandhi.

Reddy continued as President until 1982 and, predictably, did not seek reelection. He retired to Bangalore and, apart from occasionally stressing the virtues of an all-party national Government, steered clear of politics.

Born into a farming family in the village of Illuru in the Anantpur district of the princely state of Hyderahad. Reddy grew up in an intensely political environment. After his school ing at the Theosophical High School in Madras, he abandoned university education to join Mahatma Gandhi's Civil Disobedience movement in 1931. His younger brother. Rajashekhara Reddy, was a leader of the Communist Party and his sister married a functionary of the Communist Party of India (Markist).

Reddy, however, steered clear of radicalism. Joining the Congress Party, he was elected to the Madras Legislative Assembly in 1946 and became a member of the Constituent Assembly in 1947. He was elected as the president of the Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee in 1952 and became the Deputy Chief Minister of the Andhra state in 1953. After the reorganisation of states on a linguistic basis in 1986, Reddy became the first Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. However, he resigned the next year following Supreme Court strictures against him in a case relating to the nationalisation of bus routes.

In 1960 Reddy became the President of the Congress Party at the national level and presided over the Bangalore session of the party in 1901. The following year, he reverted to his earlier job as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. After the death of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, in 1962. his successor, Lal Bahadur Shastri, invited Reddy to join the central Cabinet as Minister for Steel and Mines.

After Shastri died in 1966, Indira Gandhi appointed him Transport Minister, a position he held until his election as Speaker in 1967.

Reddy is survived by his wife Nagarathnamma, a son and three daughters.

ROBERT GRAY

Robert Gray, QC, member of the Planning Bar. Deputy High Cour Judge, and Chancellor of the Diocese of Southwark, died from cancer on May 23 aged 59. He was born on

A DISTINGUISHED lawyer, whose life was prematurely terminated by cancer. Robert Gray was also a polymath in whom intellect was offset by gentleness and humour. Born in Checkendon, Ox-

fordshire, one of six children,

August 29, 1936.

Robert Michael Ker Gray lived for most of his life in the nearby village of Whitchurch on the Thames, where he was a parish councillor for many years. Short in stature, formidable in intellect, he won a scholarship to Radley where he shared a study for a time with Peter Cook. His precocious academic progress led to his being sent for a year to the Humboldt Gymnasium in Düsseldorf. He always spoke with warmth of his stay there as a guest of Nils and Lili von Bulow, in whose house he developed a love of European music and culture which was to dominate the life of this otherwise very English lawver.

By the time he arrived as a scholar at Balliol, where he read Modern History, Gray was fluent in German, French and Italian. He was articled to Sir Anthony Lousada at the City firm of Stephenson, Harwood and Tatham. He qualified as a solicitor in 1962. After a spell with the United Nations he abandoned his attempts to enter the Foreign Service and joined the legal department of Berkshire

County Council. There Gray's talent for advocacy and incisive legal draftsmanship so impressed the county's chief executive, Ellis Roger Davies, that he encouraged his young assistant solicitor to return to

university, this time to St John's College, Cambridge. where he read for an LLB and the Russian Tripos. With further support from his mentor. he was called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn in 1969. All this was achieved on a part-time basis. Gray returning to his work for the county council during the university

vacations. Although he entered Chanry Chambers at 24 Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn. his ability to operate several careers in parallel, and his already extensive knowledge of local government law and practice, led Gray to acquire simultaneously a successful Chancery, wardship and town and country planning

practice. In spite of his upward progress, he never forgot the support and encouragement which he had received at the outset of his career. His relationship with his colleagues in the legal profession and his pupils in chambers was characterised by a desire to instil self-belief and a love of

the legal system. He took silk in 1983, moving to chambers at 4-5 Gray's Inn Square, and was invited by the Lord Chancellor to sit. not only as a Deputy High Court Judge in the Chancery, Family

and Oueen's Bench Divisions of the High Court, but as a Recorder at the Old Bailey. He was invariably courteous to counsel. His summings-up to the jury in criminal trials was marked by his humanity and breadth of vision.

His legal career encompassed membership of the General Council of the Bar, the Senate of the Bar and becoming, in 1991, a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn. He moved to 2 Mitre Court Buildings in the Temple in 1990, but soon afterwards fell seriously ill. From 1990 he served as Chan-cellor of the Diocese of Southwark, and continued with this work until shortly before his

Known as Michael to his family, and Robert to friends and acquaintances. Gray was a superb conversationalist, able to recite at will the first lines of all of Shakespeare's plays in several languages. No Sunday breakfast was complete without his singing at least one hymn, word perfect. in a baritone voice which was seldom raised, except to a musical challenge. He was able to converse in Portuguese and Italian, as well as the languages in which he was fluent. His circle of friends, from all walks of life, kept growing because he never acquired the self-importance which can afflict the most talented. His gregarious and generous nature made him much in demand as a

godparent. It was obvious that Gray was heading for the highest reaches of his chosen profession, and unimaginable that he could be struck down by a terminal disease. He refused to accent defeat and endured several operations with cour-age which revealed new depths in a complex character. and a firmness of religious belief which he previously tended to conceal from his

He was unmarried.

Eric Wood, civil servant, archaeologist and author, died on May 21 aged 83.

He was born on

November 22, 1912.

ERIC WOOD completed his segond major work. Historical **Prain** in the summer of last year. Subtitled "A comprehensive account of the development of rural and urban life and landscape from prehistory to the present day", it is a massive work of 040 large. double-column pages illustrated throughout by the artist Rex Nicholls.

In his review for The Times Simon Jenkins commented: "Part encylopaedia, part textbook, part call to arms... Wood's eye seems to miss nothing, from fertility emblems on old church walls to handrails on a Georgian house. He is a master portraitist of our land."

Eric Stewart Wood was educated at St Olave's School, Southwark. He read Modern Languages (French and German) at King's College London, and then switched disciplines, becoming a post-

ERIC WOOD graduate student of Professor V. Gordon Childe at the Univ-

ersity of London Institute of

Archaeology, He spent half his life as a civil servant, first at the Inland Revenue then at the Ministry of Aircraft Production, 1931-44, and subsequently as a principal in various departments including Treasury. Technology. Aviation and Trade and Industry, 1941-72. All the time he was in the Civil Service he cherished an interest in archaeology until his retirement in 1972 left him free to follow his real passion.

He belonged to that generation of gifted amateur archaeologists whose pioneering work at a local level in the 1950s and 1960s gave way to professional appointments in the 1970s. The high standards he set meant that the handover from amateur to professional was particularly smooth in Surrey, where he served as president of the Surrey Archaeological Society.

He made recognised contributtons to the study of glassmaking, excavating a med-ieval glasshouse at Blunden's

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Wood, Hambledon, Surrey. and also a loth-century glasshouse at Knightons, Alfold. Surrey. But his interests and knowledge were always much wider than such specialism suggests. As well-informed on current social issues and the facts of modern British life as he was on long barrows and Roman towns, he had an extraordinary ability to synthesise and interpret information. He was interested not only in the objects or build-

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ing's original purpose, but how it had been adapted and used since, and what its future might be. His first book was The

Collins Field Guide to Ar-chaeology in Britain (1963). Factual, descriptive, and pocket-sized in the days when pockets were a serious business, it run to five editions becoming the standard reference work and selling more than \$6,000 copies worldwide. His work on the Field Guide revealed many gaps in archaeological publishing, so he persuaded Michael Walter. his editor at Collins, to commission him, with Cherry Lavell, to edit the Collins Archaeology Series: sadiy. only six titles were published. including Clive Orton's Mathematics in Archaeology and R. W. Brunskill's Houses, before the series fell victim to rising production costs.

Eric Wood's first wife, by whom he had two daughters, died in 1979. He married his second wife. Pam Woollard, in 1980. She survives him, together with one daughter from his first marriage.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

JO VAN FLEET



Jo Van Fleet with James Dean in East of Eden, 1955

Jo Van Fleet, actress, died in New York on June 10 aged 76. She was born in Oakland, California, on December 30, 1919.

UNLIKE most of her contemporaries in Hollywood, who preferred to see themselves in ingenue roles long after they were naturally fitted for them. Jo Van Fleet made her reputation by playing older women. She specialised in defiant, unsentimental types, who could easily outbrazen the dark looks of their churchgoing neighbours. She was only 35, barely a decade older than her co-star, when she played James Dean's mother in Elia Kazan's East of Eden in 1955. It was her first screen performance and it won her an Oscar for best supporting actress.

This was a modern version of the biblical Cain and Abel story, with Van Fleet playing Kate, the mother who left home, under a cloud of shame and secrecy, to become a brothel keeper. Dean's screen brother Aron (played by Richard Davalos) knows nothing of his mother's new life, or that she is, indeed, even still alive. The scene towards the end of the film when Dean reunites mother and son was particularly powerful. Van

CHILD COMMUNISTS'

TRIP TO RUSSIA.

PASSPORTS REFUSED.

Acting on the decision of the Cabinet that no

passports should be issued to parties of

children going from this country to visit

Russia, the Foreign Office yesterday refused

passports for the children whom the Young

Comrades' League of Great Britain had proposed to send on a fortnight's visit to the

Soviet institutions. The children, six in

number, were to have sailed to-night, and the

passport difficulty has caused that plan to be

abandoned, but an official of the Young

Comrades' League stated quite definitely last

night that this is only a rostponement and that

the "delegation" will certainly go to Russia.

The refusal of passports came as a surprise to

the British Communists yesterday, and the arrangements for the departure were hastily

cancelled. No final plan for carrying out the

visit was decided upon, and fresh councils will

be held to-day. It would presumably be possible for the children and their guides to

sail without passports in a Russian ship, provided they were landed on Russian

territory, and if this were done they could not

be refused admission to England on their

return if they were brought back in the same

Fleet, looking weary and care-worn in a low-cut black evening dress and bleached blonde hair, radiated the bleakest emotion without saying a word.

Like everyone else connected with the three good films Dean made before his death, Van Fleet received a voluminous correspondence from Dean's fans for the rest of her life: "They seem to feel that he should have won the Oscar." The film launched Van Fleet on a

flourishing career for the next twenty years. She was destined, it seemed, to be everybody's mother, playing women of diverse ethnic backgrounds but with a common thread of pride and stoicism. She mothered Paul Newman in Cool Hand Luke (1967). Anthony Perkins in the Broadway production of Look Home-ward, Angel, and, in a switch to absurdist comedy, played the archetypal smothering matriarch in Arthur Kopit's Oh Dad. Poor Dad, Mama's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feelin' So Šad.

Educated at California's University of the Pacific, Van Fleet moved to New York after graduation and trained for the stage at the Neighborhood Playhouse. She made her professional debut in 1944, and two yeas later appeared on Broadway for the first time in a production of The Winter's Tale. She remained more enthusiastic about the stage than the prospect of Hollywood, and a succession of excellent roles on Broadway followed. She was Regan to Louis Calhern's King Lear in 1950, and she became a member of Elia Kazan's Actors Studio. Like Marilyn Monroe she attributed much of her technical improvement to Kazan.

Two years after winning her Oscar in 1955. Van Fleet won a Tony for her performance as the irritable, hymnsinging Jessie Mae Watts in The Trip to Bountiful. There were to be no more awards, but she consolidated her reputation as an actress's actress with a series of portrayals on stage. Her film roles included those of a Southern matriarch in The Rose Tattoo (1955); and Doc Holliday's mistress in Gunfight at the OK Corral (1957). On television she played the wicked stepmother in the 1965 revival of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella

Unlike the sort of malcontented mistresses she sometimes played, Jo Van Fleet was happily married to a choreogra-pher, William Bales, who died in 1990. She is survived by one son.

planned. The children are all under 14 years of

PERSONAL COLUMN

WANTED

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ON THIS DAY

June 14, 1927

After being invited by the Moscow Pioneers to send a delegation of children to visit Russia, the Young Comrades' League of Great Britain then had a problem getting passports

way, since they are all British nationals and domiciled in this country. The children were to have gone by boat train from Liverpoolstreet to Harwich, across to the Hook of Holland, and overland to Moscow. The night train had been chosen so that the Communists of London might gather at the station and make a demonstration in favour of "proletarian solidarity" in sending off these child emissaries to the workers of Russia. The children and their two adult cicerones have been in London during the past week-end and have been entertained by sympathizers. Last night arrangements were being made for them to remain until a new departure can be

age, and only one had already obtained a passport. They have been chosen to represent all the children's organizations of the British Communists. The bodies from which they are drawn are the Socialist Sunday schools, the Young Comrades' League, the Cooperative Comrades' Circles, the unemployed organization, and the miners' minority movement. The invitation to this delegation came from the Moscow Pioneers, the Communist children's organization in Russia, who decided at their last congress that they would entertain a delegation of British children. It was proposed to show the visitors how the pioneers worked among the children of Russia: how the schools were run, and generally to teach them the methods of bringing up Russian children in the ways of Communism. The Young Comrades' League of Great Britain undertook to organize the trip and had then to face the problem of getting the children to Russia. Once there, it was understood that the pioneers would act as hosts and bear the expenses. To cover the cost of travelling, funds were raised and the contributions have included, besides the tribute of the enthusiastic Communists, the pennies of children in Socialist Sunday schools and other bodies influenced by the Communists.

BUCK

June 13 evening burgh, Salute Marine Her M

ness to cession escorter Housel

24

NEWS

Major rebukes Thatcher over Cash

John Major delivered a blunt rebuke to Baroness Thatcher last night, virtually accusing her of disloyalty after she twisted the knife in Conservative wounds by ostentatiously donating money to Bill Cash's anti-federalist European Foundation.

The Prime Minister, battered by internal turmoil as two MPs were accused of holding him to ransom, said it was up to her what she did with her money but added: "Personally, I would have given it to the Conservative Party"

Direct evidence of BSE link

■ In the first direct evidence linking "mad cow" disease and human beings researchers who injected material from cows suffering from BSE into the brains of monkeys produced patterns of brain damage very similar to those in patients suffering from a new variant of CJD Pages 1, 2, 21

Rhino goring

A British conservation worker was gored to death by a rhinoceros at an African wildlife reserve after climbing into its enclosure. Daniel Lipscombe, from Guernsey, was killed instantly ... Page 1

Honours uneven When John Major said he would

make the Honours List more classless two years ago, Whitehall civil servants were appalled. But a survey by The Times shows the reforms have failedPage 3

Alan Clark fined

Alan Clark, the former Conservative minister, was fined £650 by Bow Street magistrates for driving through a police cordon during a security alert in Piccadilly... ...Page 5

Poor qualifications

Inadequate standards are undermining the new job-related courses qualifications taken by sixth-formers, the Chief Inspector of Schools said.

On the fast track

The poor have been getting richer faster than the rest of the population and most now have fridgefreezers, video recorders and cars, Peter Lilley saidPage 8

Labour manifesto

Tony Blair will mount a campaign to sell Labour's manifesto programme to voters over the next few weeks. A draft will be published on July 4...... Page 9

Ecstasy damage

Eestasy, which is taken by about 500,000 young people every week. may cause irreversible brain damage and chronic depression. Even a single dose can have permanent effects...

The missing mothers

Childlessness will double in Britain, according to a government forecast which predicts that one in five women now in their late 20s and early 30s will never have . Page 13

Bosnia discord

An international conference to keep the Bosnian peace agreement on track opened with differences over whether conditions have been met for elections in September .

Hillary allegation

New Whitewater evidence claims Hillary Clinton was the only suspect in the mysterious disappearance and discovery of her own legal billing records Page 15 Baby scandal

The Australian Government has refused to investigate claims that single mothers were told their babies had died so the children could be adopted

Confident candidate Gennadi Zyuganov, the Russian Communist Party leader who is challenging for the presidency. said victory in Sunday's poll was aiready his Pages 17, 21

Lords and Ladies in the Long Room

■ Women were admitted to the pavilion at Lord's for the first time in more than 200 years, but they had to be accompanied by an MCC member. The occasion was the first women's international between England and New Zealand, which was won by New Zealand. Only the Queen had been allowed inside the Long Room before yesterday



Lloyd's: The Lloyd's of London insurance market is punishing 172 market professionals by cutting their share of the settlementPage 25

BUSINESS

Competitiveness: Business leaders broadly welcomed the White Paper on Britain's competitiveness, which set out proposals aimed at improving industrial and economic ..Page 25 performance.

the promise of customer benefits to its hid for Southern Water as it launched its formal offer ... Page 25 Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 7.5 points to close at 3761.7. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 85.9 to 85.6 after a fall from \$1.5344 to \$1.5297 and from DM2.3578 to DM2.3485.... Page 28 after his late father...

Utilities: Southern Electric added

SPORT Football: David Miller believes

that Terry Venables, the England coach, should not persist with Paul Gascoigne any longer in the European championship .. Pages 44, 45 Golf: Colin Montgomerie, of Scotland, was disappointed despite producing a 70 to equal par for the

THE TIMES TODAY

course in the US Open, at Oakland Hills. Nick Faldo was happy with ... Pages 46, 48 Cricket: Ali Bacher, the guiding light behind South African cricket, is on the point of being installed in

game worldwide...... Pages 42, 48 Motor racing: Jacques Villeneuve is contemplating a weekend of racing which will dimax in the Canadian Grand Prix on a circuit named

a position aimed at developing the

ARTS

Berkoff back: The Mermaid Theatre in London has reopened with Steven Berkoff's fierce if unsubtle production of Coriolanus, starring

Tap before take-off: Passengers at Stansted Airport enjoyed a novel form of pre-flight entertainment on Wednesday evening: a tap-dancing show in the terminal by the Dutchman Tobias Tak Page 33

Pop on Friday: Caitlin Moran on the reasons why pop stars fade from glory so quickly: David Sinclair on albums by Dodgy. Tracy Bonham, Me'Shell Ndegeocello and BR5-49... ..Page 35

Drifters collected: New blues alburns reviewed include a three-CD compilation of the Drifters' greatest

TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

RAW TALENT Alan Jackson meets

Alanis Morissette, bestselling singer and songwriter (left), in the Magazine

EURO 96 Win tickets to the final of the European Championship

Knight of note: André Previn talks to Valerie Grove about the audiences from hell, being an honorary knight — and his laundry problems.. .Page 19 Comeback: The reputation of Jorge

Luis Borges suffered because of his reactionary political views. Ten vears after his death, is it time for his rehabilitation? Page 18 Bad buzz: Are friendly switchboards driving you mad? Kathryn Knight finds BT's new personal style irritating...

FEATURES

EDUCATION

Educational slogan: Will more selection boost the system - or is it just a political slogan?Page 37 Easy-peasy: Standards seem to be slipping when children can achieve high marks in the Common Entrance exam even when they are too young to sit it officially Page 37

THE PAPERS

underground is the perverse expression of a surprising paradox. In Russia democracy has not surpressed violence: it has liberated it

TV LISTINGS 3

Preview: Armando lannucci and friends return with more topical boots up the backside. Friday Night Armistice (BBC2, 10pm), Review: Lynne Truss seeks relief from Euro 96..

Back to beef

The government's strategy for RSP still lacks the vigour and competence to carry conviction abroad and the humility to acknowledge that the scientific verdict has not yet been returned

OPINION.

Kohl's police project

There is no proof that an EU FBI is desirable and good reason to suspect the opposite....

Prescott's education A greater emphasis on selection

does not need to be at the expense of chances for othersPage 21

COLUMNS !

MICHAEL GOVE

The EU's structures seem designed specifically to propel nations towards a single goal. Any further opt-outs at conferences would be policed by institutions such as the Commission and Court, which exist to advance integration. They are referees wearing the opposing team's colours.. PHILIP HOWARD

Of the 20 premier-division operas half are set in Spain, and half of those in Seville. There are great Spanish opera singers and old opera houses in the Iberian world, even one halfway up the Amazon at Manaus. But the Spanish singers sing in Italian. German. French or even in English. PETER RIDDELL

Parliament's influence has declined

in relation to the executive, European institutions, the judges and the media. Tony Newton's reforms

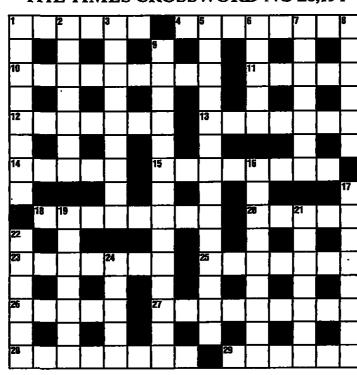
do not go to the heart of Parliament's current failures Page 8 CELLARIE Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy Presi-

dent of India, 1977-82; Robert Gray, QC, member of the Planning. Bar: Eric Wood, civil servant archaeologist and author. Jo Van .. Page 23 Fleet, actress

LETTERS

Petition on climate change: base rates; absent fathers in literature; Blair's school reforms; cochlear im-

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,194



ACROSS

- 1 Famous Persian king beset by ten former wives (6).
- 4 Pat toils in Blarney (8). 10 Rotten centre in a fruit (9).
- 11 No saint included in this category? 12 Kiss, embracing a business man
- who's vain (7). 13 Court case about university bridge (7). 14 Major removes lid from container
- 15 The Spanish fish in Ophir, for
- instance (8). 18 Marries, and gets accepted in orders (8).
- 20 Cautiously move left in party (5). 23 Retire from active service, having
- 25 Seafood provided by Jack and nobody else (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,193

no legal force (7).

MILLASCR APRIL DONE BOLE NOUIPRK OVERTOP CREMONS N U E I S T R Generalstrike

- 26 Knowing one way to preserve city (5),
- 27 Stars get together with capital lawyer in the States (9).
- 28 Dishonestly get possession of your old secret (8).
- 29 Celebrity taken in by affable gendarme (6).

DOWN

alarm (5).

ing (6).

- I Greek historian and general work hard when caught in gas (8).
- 2 Free to eat lish? Roe, for example 3 Woman deplored knight being
- lost in love (9). 5 Caribbean group has ridden as
- well as possible (7,7). 6 Caught one sleeping - raised
- 7 Discern changes in void (7). 8 Working steadily or quietly rest-
- 9 Trout may be pleased as Punch (7.2.5).16 I've a sober disposition to over-
- come (4.5). 17 Outlaw making man hand over
- money, perhaps (8). 19 Further progress (7).
- 21 See if ice does reform (7).
- 22 In the event, talk is cut short (6). 24 Look over set-up? True (5).
 - Times Two Crossword, page 48

Criserer Chinan Kent, Surrey, Sussex Dorset, Hants & IOW Devon & Cornwall Wits, Gloucs, Avon, Sorns East Midlands Lincs & Humberside

THES WEADERCALL

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Gwynedd & Clwyd
N W England
W & S Yorks & Dales W & S Torks & Bales

N E England

Cumbna & Lake District

S W Scotland.

W Central Scotland

Edin S Pile/Lothian & Borders.

E Central Scotland

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Scotland Northern kreiand HIGHEST & LOWEST

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Rocycled paper made up

for UK newspapers in 1995

FORECAST

☐ General: After the clear chilly night Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, quickly, and the day will become sunny and warm. In the south and periods, while further north, with patchy cloud, sunny intervals are

more likely. Western and northern Scotland will have a cloudy day with outbreaks of patchy light rain or drizzle in places. The remainder of Scotland and Northern Ireland will be dry and bright with sunny periods.

☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, Midlands, E England, Channel Isles, SW Eng-land, S Wales, Central N England: Chilly start. Dry warm and sunny. later. Winds light and variable sea-breezes on coast, Warm, Maximum temperature 20C to 22C (68F to

☐ N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England,

Bright, patchy cloud building during day with long sunny periods. Clearing in evening. Wind light westerly. Warm. Max 18C to 20C (64F to 68F). ☐ Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland: Cloudy at times in west, otherwise

bright with sunny periods. Winds light or moderate westerly. Warm. Max 18C to 20C (64F to 68F). □ NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy with patchy light rain or drizzle. Some brighter intervals. Winds moderate or fresh southwesterly.

Warm. Max 15C to 17C (59F to 63F). Outlook: Some cloudiness in northwest, otherwise it will continue to be dry, warm and sunny,

Pollen forecast: Scotland, North Wales, low: northern England, North Wales, low: northern England, North Ireland, London, moderate; Midlands, East Anglia, South Wales, South East, South West, high.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

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The terrorist attack on the Moscow

— Le Figaro It is a good time to break free of the usual bloc and regional horse trading in appointing the new UN secretary general. Why bar a

Westerner? And why should candidates not make known their views on the UN and their approach to the job? - The Washington Post | plants; modern manners ... Page 21 Ŭ Sunny∵ Surny intervals Choudy

Rain Suriny showers Sleet and sunny showers. 🙅 Lightning Mail 💮 13 (Celsius) Wind speed

20

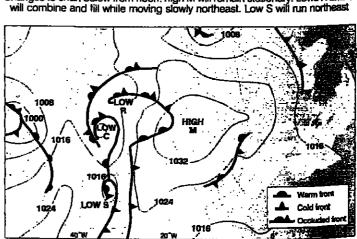
CALM

Sea conditions

Drizzle

Overcast

Changes to chart below from noon; high M will remain stationary. Lows R and C



HIGH TIDES TODAY
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HOURS OF DARKNESS

London 9 19 pm to 4 43 am Bristol 9 29 pm to 4.53 am Edinburgh 10 00 pm to 4.25 am Manchester 9.39 pm to 4.39 am Penzance 9.33 pm to 5.12 am

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JOHN MAJOR Salarie at The that he had "rad - ". Conservative in-Europe, and he waster oness Thatcher and m unite behind is " election detecti. But even as here rightwingers comment the poil and other reprimanded for blackmail c.c.

ALFA ROMEO

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Audrey Hull ---







